

Czechoslovakia expels 4 Britons

LONDON (AP) — Czechoslovakia expelled three British diplomats and a spokesman for the Foreign Office called an unjustified action. The spokesman said Czechoslovak authorities told the British ambassador in Prague, Lawrence O'Keefe, that the four Britons must leave the country because of "unacceptable activities." The diplomat Jargovskij, earlier, the Czechoslovak Communist Party daily Rude Pravo called the expulsion of its diplomats another case of "British aggression, which certain British circles bring about from time to time." Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, however, told the House of Commons Thursday that the expulsions of the Soviets and the Czechoslovakians were "a reflection of the effect upon our relations." Britain had been enjoying its best relations with the Soviet Union since World War II before the expulsions, and had been improving relations with Czechoslovakia, partly to get help in trying to make more defensible the Czechoslovak-made explosive sentries used by the Irish Republican Army and other groups.

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Summit backs PLO moves; top-level panel for Lebanon

Compiled by our staff from agency dispatches

CASABLANCA — Arab leaders, ending a four-day emergency summit which formally welcomed Egypt back into the Arab League, Friday gave full support to the latest Palestinian peace initiatives and entrusted a three-member head-of-state-level committee to pursue efforts to end the 15-year-old Lebanese civil strife.

The final communique issued Friday at the end of the summit, the longest ever in the history of the Arab League, pledged continued Arab support for the Palestinian uprising and called on the United Nations Security Council to adopt appropriate action against Israel's often brutal handling of the anti-occupation revolt.

In what could be easily described as a major diplomatic victory for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), the summit endorsed resolutions adopted by the Palestine National Council (PNC) in November last year proclaiming an independent Palestinian state.

It entrusted a committee headed by King Hassan II of Morocco, the summit host and chairman, to pursue international contacts to convene a U.N.-sponsored peace conference on the Middle East with the participation of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and all parties involved, including the PLO.

The summit hailed the intifada and decided to "continue providing all forms of support and assistance to it so that the Palestinian people under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, its sole legitimate representative, can continue its resistance and escalate the heroic intifada against the Israeli occupation."

The conference also condemned "the crimes of the Israeli occupation and its practices against the Arab people in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories" and called on the Security Council to carry out its duty towards these crimes and practices, including the possibility of imposing sanctions on Israel.

The conference also affirmed the foundations of the Arab peace plan endorsed by the 1982 Arab summit in Fez and reaffirmed by the 1988 emergency Arab summit in Algiers.

Extending full recognition to the independent Palestinian state proclaimed by the PNC, the summit called on all world countries to give the state full recognition and enable it "to exercise its sovereignty over its national territory."

The summit endorsed the PLO position on the election plan proposed by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and said elections "should take place after Israeli withdrawal from occupied Palestinian territory and under international supervision and in the framework of a comprehensive peace plan, seeing that the Israeli plan aims to strike at the intifada..."

The summit welcomed the resumption of Egypt's full membership in the Arab League and expressed conviction that "Egypt's presence in its national place among fellow Arab states would help reinforce joint Arab action... bringing benefits, honour and prosperity to the Arab Nation."

The summit resolution on Lebanon appeared to be a compromise by playing off an endorsement of the Palestinian peace initiative against the abandonment of efforts by some Arab states to make Damascus withdraw its troops from Lebanon.

Summit delegates affirmed the need for Arab action to reach a solution which restores to Lebanon its stability and security and (Continued on page 2)

Israel protests Baker remarks

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel has protested to the United States about the harsh tone of Secretary of State James Baker's first major Middle East policy statement, a foreign ministry official said Friday.

He said Israel's ambassador, Moshe Arad, "protested about the atmosphere that such a speech created," in talks with the State Department Thursday.

After five days of studying Baker's address this week to a pro-Israeli lobbying group, Israel liked it, even less, the senior official told reporters.

Israel experts saw worrying new terminology and serious omissions in the speech, which warned the Zionist state against annexing the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and urged it to halt Jewish settlement there.

The official said Baker had for the first time called for Palestinians to be granted "full political rights" and "self-government."

Previously the United States had spoken more vaguely of the "legitimate rights of the Palestinian people" and more recently of their "political rights."

It had spoken of self-governing bodies or institutions, but not of self-government.

"These are slight changes in terminology but they worry some people here," the official said. Among omissions, the experts noted there was no reference to Israel's right to secure borders nor to previous pledges that Israel would not be forced to return to its pre-1967 frontiers. There was also no reference to a "united Jerusalem."

Israeli, Syrian fighters patrol Lebanese skies

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Israeli and Syrian fighter jets patrolled different sectors of Lebanon's airspace Friday amid reports that Syria has brought up more tanks to back its 40,000 troops deployed across the country.

Army units of General Michel Aoun and Syrian troops fought with machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades across Beirut's dividing green line for two hours. Police said no casualties were reported.

The exchanges came as Arab leaders meeting in Casablanca, Morocco, dropped a resolution that Syrian troops should leave Lebanon, but agreed the country's constitution should be revised.

An explosion rocked the densely populated Abu Samra neighbourhood in Tripoli, 60 kilometres north of Beirut, around 1 p.m. (10:00 GMT), the Lebanese Red Cross said. It was not immediately known what caused the blast.

"It started a fire, but no details are available as telephone contacts with Tripoli are down," said a Red Cross spokesman.

The U.S. embassy denied a report by the east Beirut daily newspaper Al Anwar that Aoun's cabinet had expelled American Charge d'Affaires Daniel Simpson for adopting policies "hostile" to Lebanon.

"We categorically deny the report that Mr. Simpson was expelled," said an embassy spokesman who refused to be named.

"He was asked by the American government to go back to Washington as a routine measure. He left yesterday," the spokesman said.

Al Anwar said Foreign Ministry Secretary General Farouk Abillama "summoned Simpson Monday and asked him to leave Lebanon in 48 hours because the constitutional Lebanese government considers him persona non grata due to his hostile stands and practices."

Simpson has been repeatedly accused by Al Anwar and other right-wing newspapers of supporting Syria's role in Lebanon which is opposed by Aoun and other rightist leaders.

Israel radio said the Israeli cabinet held a special session to discuss Syria's reported deployment of an armoured brigade and helicopter-borne commandos.

In Damascus, the Syria Times reported that Syrian army, artillery, and air force units staged mock attacks against ground troops but did not say where the exercise was held.

Syrian Television quoted Defence Minister Mustafa Tlas, who supervised the exercise, as saying: "The manoeuvre on a full-scale battle against the enemy was successful." He did not elaborate.

A spokesman for Aoun's army units said two Israeli warplanes broke the sound barrier at 35,000 feet over the Chouf mountains southeast of Beirut at noon (0900 GMT).

The planes drew heavy anti-aircraft fire from Syrian-backed militiamen of Progressive Socialist Party. No hits were observed, said the army spokesman, who refused to be named.

Earlier, four Syrian fighter jets criss-crossed the rightist enclave and the capital at high altitude, flying "from the northern border to Beirut for more than an hour beginning at 6:15 a.m. (0315 GMT)."

Bush heads for Europe with NATO proposals

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President George Bush, armed with North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) proposals that may include U.S. troop cuts in Europe, departed Friday on a trip destined to test his ability to lead the Western alliance.

Before Bush left for Rome, the first stop in a journey built around a two-day NATO summit in Brussels that begins Monday, senior White House advisers acknowledged the need for the president to make a mark in his debut as alliance leader.

The Washington Times reported Bush was prepared to cut as many as 34,000 U.S. troops in Europe as a response to a proposal by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev for slashing the size of Eastern bloc forces.

"He's going with several definite positions," said one White House official when asked about possible troop cuts. "We'll discuss them in Brussels."

Andrews air force base, Bush vowed to tear down the barriers that divide Europe.

"For too long, unnatural and inhuman barriers have divided East from West," he said. "We hope to overcome that division, to see a Europe that is truly free, united and at peace."

A White House aide acknowledged that Bush "needs to establish himself" as the head of the alliance, particularly in light of an open challenge to traditional U.S. influence by some members.

A U.S. offer to reduce troops in Europe would serve as a response to Gorbachev's 1.26 million Soviet troops in Eastern Europe, along with removing tens of thousands of tanks, artillery and armoured vehicles.

"Anything we have to say, we'll say in Europe," said U.S. spokesman Bill Harlow. The chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Sam Nunn, told the U.S. broadcasting network CBS that a 10 per cent troop reduction "is the probable amount of reduction that would occur if the Soviet Union accepted the NATO proposal on conventional arms control which is now tabled."

A senior NATO official, asked by reporters in Brussels about the report, said "our delegations here on the spot have not been apprised of this." He spoke on condition of anonymity.

West German government spokesman Herbert Schmueling said in Bonn, "We have no official word of such a decision." Some 250,000 U.S. troops are stationed in West Germany.



HM King Hussein

King pays tribute to Morocco, voices thanks

CASABLANCA (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein Friday paid tribute to King Hassan II of Morocco for his initiative to convene this week's extraordinary Arab summit and voiced extreme pleasure with the readmission of Egypt into the Arab League.

Addressing the final session of the summit on behalf of Arab leaders, King Hussein voiced thanks and appreciation to King Hassan, chairman of the conference, for the hospitality the Arab leaders were accorded during their stay in Morocco.

"Your Majesty and your country contributed to making the summit a success, a contribution which we will always remember with all gratitude and appreciation," King Hussein said.

"On Majesty had taken the lead and initiative for convening this conference for consultation and exchange of views among the brother Arab leaders to serve best of their people and for higher Arab interests," King Hussein said.

The King noted that King Hassan's supervision of the conference and the cooperation which was felt during meetings contributed to the positive results the conferences reached.

"Such results are a source of pride for all Arab citizens," the King said.

"The brotherly atmosphere which dominated the conference's meeting, in the presence of the sister Arab country (Egypt) which has now restored its normal place in the great Arab family, has enriched our dialogue and has yielded fruitful results, which we hope will be for the good of our Arab Nation, and particularly for the Palestine question and the struggle of the Palestinian people to restore their national rights," King Hussein said.

In a speech to the summit Wednesday night, King Hussein welcomed Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and praised Egypt's return to the Arab fold.

The King referred to Arab accomplishments since the Amman and Algeria summits, namely the ceasefire between Iraq and (Continued on page 2)

Settlers attack W. Bank village

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Jewish settlers raided a Palestinian village in the occupied West Bank Friday, shooting at least three residents and damaging houses and cars in a second "vigilante" attack in less than a day, Israel Radio and reports said.

Leftist politicians said the outburst of vigilante activity by the 70,000 Jewish settlers living in the occupied territories was designed to block Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's initiative that calls for Palestinian elections.

Within the premier's right-wing Likud bloc, a dissident leader announced his opposition to Shamir's proposal, and Trade Minister Ariel Sharon, another Shamir rival, toured the occupied West Bank in a show of support for the settlers.

Residents of Arara, home to 1,400 Palestinians 30 kilometres north of Jerusalem, said 20 to 40 settlers entered the village at 9 a.m., coming from the surrounding hills.

Mahmoud Salah, a school teacher in Arara, told the AP the settlers opened fire on the houses and people they saw in the streets.

"We are sure they were settlers," he said. "They were dressed in civilian clothes and did not act like security agents, because they fired indiscriminately."

He said men, women and children rushed out of their houses and responded with a barrage of stones, driving the settlers out after a three-hour confrontation.

The daughter of village leader Yousef Mahmoud, who declined to give her name, said the settlers smashed two cars and punctured the windows of five houses with bullets.

The villagers said five people were wounded in the shooting, including a 19-year-old youth, Sulaiman Abu Kandil, with a serious gunshot wound to the stomach.

Shamir restates rejection of Palestinian state

MADRID (Agencies) — A Palestinian state would be possible only if Israelis went mad, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir was quoted Friday as saying.

Shamir told the Spanish daily newspaper El Pais that Arab countries meeting in Casablanca should recognise Israel and accept its invitation to negotiate a settlement.

Asked whether such talks could lead to the creation of a Palestinian state, he said: "In theory anything is possible. But in practice I do not believe so."

"Only if one day Israelis go mad will a Palestinian state be possible," he said.

Shamir, on a visit to Spain to seek support for his Middle East plan, repeated that he would not negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

"We believe that this negotiation is useless, because the PLO's minimum demand is that we accept the creation of a Palestinian state, which we are not prepared to do," he said.

The Shamir plan provides for elections in the occupied territories to choose negotiators who would discuss interim self-rule.

Shamir, leader of the right-wing Likud bloc, left for Israel just before noon (1000 GMT).

Shamir arrived Wednesday in Madrid from London on a tour of European capitals to seek support for his elections plan.

On Wednesday, he met twice with Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez and visited with King Juan Carlos. Shamir met Thursday with Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordonez.

Both Spain, the current holder of the six-month rotating presidency of the 12-nation European Community (EC), and the EC members view the Israeli plan and elections as insufficient.

Fernandez Ordonez said the Israeli plan failed to accept direct talks with the PLO and excluded an international Middle East peace conference favoured by the EC.



Chinese students thronging Peking's central square

Hardline said gaining in Chinese power struggle

PEKING (Agencies) — Reform-minded Communist Party chief Zhao Ziyang has been stripped of his post and placed under house arrest as conservatives began a purge of liberals to gain control of the divided government, sources said Friday.

Zhao lost power in a bitter fight with conservative Premier Li Peng after Li ordered martial law in Peking following the occupation of central Tiananmen Square May 13 by students demanding a freer society and cleaner government, the Chinese and diplomatic sources said.

Officials who have worked under Zhao to chart political and economic reforms will face disciplinary action, with some losing their jobs, sources said. Among those reported in trouble were party propaganda chief Hu Qili and Vice Premier Tian Jiyun.

Zhao has been a leading proponent of economic reforms championed by 84-year-old senior leader Deng Xiaoping, but the two differed over political change. The party chief has expressed sympathy for the students' goals.

President Yang Shangkun, an ally of Deng, said in a speech to top officials Thursday that Zhao's actions "had a very bad effect"

on the nation, a government source said.

Millions of Chinese from all walks of life have taken up the students' cause, with demonstrations erupting in dozens of cities demanding Li and Deng step down.

The number of students in Tiananmen Square has dwindled to about 15,000, but leaders said the remaining protesters had not changed their resolution to stay despite the presence of martial law troops around the city.

"It's going to get more complex, we cannot ascertain what the leaders' intentions are, but we will not leave the square," said a student leader from Qinhua University who gave only his last name, Xin.

Chinese and diplomatic sources said Zhao was under house arrest. A document circulated said Zhao to county- and district-level party officials said Zhao was no longer heading the ruling Communist Party, according to a diplomat who has provided reliable information in the past.

No successor was named in the document. The party's Central Committee technically would have to ratify any change in the leadership made by the conservatives.

Sapped by the heat, declining health and uncertainty about the future, the numbers of students camped out at Tiananmen Square have fallen from about 50,000 three nights ago to about 15,000 on Thursday night, witnesses said Friday.

"We are investigating ways to solve the problem of falling numbers," Guo Haifeng, one of seven members of the student standing committee leading the protest, told a foreign visitor.

"It has been two weeks since we took over Tiananmen and it is natural for some students to leave," said Guo, 23, a Peking University international politics student. "They are tired."

Guo said there were splits in the committee, led by the only woman among the seven, Cai Ling of Peking Normal University.

He said Wueraixi, a key leader when the protests began in mid-April, had been dismissed after trying to lead a protest in Peking's diplomatic area without consulting the committee.

Another woman member resigned last Tuesday over unspecified differences.

"We are still united," said Guo, who heads the day-to-day activities of the protest.

Prospects fade for early end to Sudan's civil war

By Hamza Hendawi
Reuters

KHARTOUM — Prospects have faded for an early end to the civil war casting a long, dark shadow over Sudan, Africa's largest country.

On the battlefield, government troops from the north fight rebels in the south. But the six-year-old conflict has exacted a far greater toll away from the immediate fighting.

It compounded a famine which killed several hundreds thousand people in south Sudan last year has helped to plunge the economy into deep crisis. Hopes of ending the war rose in March when the government finally adopted a peace pact agreed by the rebels and one of the parties in the ruling coalition.

But, two months later, the two sides appear to be as far apart as ever.

Diplomats and Sudanese officials point to a range of complex ethnic and religious differences underlying the conflict and a deep sense of mistrust on both sides.

The rebels, fighting what they regard as domination by the north, oppose the imposition of Islamic law in Sudan. They demand secular laws to put Sudan's many ethnic and religious groups on an equal footing.

Both sides say they want peace. Each accuses the other of failing to reciprocate peace initiatives.

The rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), which has notched up a string of victories on the battlefield, declared a unilateral one-month ceasefire May 1.

But Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi said in an interview with Reuters last week there could be no jointly-agreed ceasefire unless the rebels first agreed to talks on the terms of the truce.

He said his two-month-old coalition government was committed to the pursuit of a peaceful settlement, but he added: "If there is no peace, we will close that door and take up defence."

This week, a ministerial committee set up in March to handle contacts with the Ethiopian-backed rebels decided not to send any more envoys to SPLA officials.

It accused the SPLA of dragging its feet on setting a date for talks to discuss implementing a Nov. 16 accord signed by SPLA chief John Garang and Mohammad Osman Al Mirghani, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, a member of the ruling coalition.

'SPLA divided'

Mahdi, in his interview, said the rebels suffered from internal divisions which were often reflected in contradictory pronouncements on peace prospects.

Diplomats agreed. They blamed the tribal structure of the SPLA, which has an estimated 40,000 fighters, and differences over what form a final settlement should take.

They said the victories by the rebels, who effectively took control of the area east of the White Nile and south of the River Sobat, strengthened the hand of a faction calling for the secession of south Sudan.

In the meantime, U.N. relief workers say famine and disease, partly a result of the impact of war on farming in the south, could kill up to 100,000 people this year unless sufficient help gets through.

The United Nations, which is taking advantage of the rebel ceasefire to ferry in emergency food aid, estimates that famine and disease killed 250,000 people in the south last year.

On the economic front, the crippling cost of the war has helped to push the economy from bad to worse.

The inflation rate has doubled to 80 per cent since Mahdi came to power in 1986 and looks to set rise as the government borrows to finance budget deficits.

Khartoum's estimated four million people, meanwhile, face acute shortages of fuel, sugar and bread.



VICTIM OF VIOLENCE: A little Lebanese girl undergoing treatment in a Kuwaiti hospital for wounds suffered in the recent fighting in Lebanon. The girl is among 71 people flown to Kuwait from Lebanon via Syria for treatment last week.

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'Israelis blocking out unsavoury images of Palestinian uprising'

TEL AVIV (AP) — Many Israelis, unwilling to acknowledge army brutality against Palestinians during the 17-month uprising, have created a "black hole" of denial and repression to block out the unsavoury images, according to an Israeli psychologist.

Speaking at a two-day conference on "Psychological Barriers to Peace," psychologist Stanley Cohen said even those Israelis who recognise that Palestinians are being mistreated have frequently rationalised the issue, often by blaming the Arab victims.

"Many Israelis find it impossible to believe that their own people can be responsible for such brutality. The information is unacceptable and slips into a black hole of the mind," Cohen said at the conference, which ended Thursday.

"Either that, or it is repackaged, using the 'Yes, but, technique. Yes, but we must have done something to deserve it,' or 'Yes, but the media exaggerate,'" said

the South African-born Cohen, a professor at Hebrew University.

At least 500 Palestinians have been killed during the revolt. The psychologists also criticised the Israeli left, saying it had not mobilised effective opposition to the army's harsh measures because it was too removed from Israeli society.

"Just preaching to people 'be moral,' is not enough," said Immanuel Berman, a psychologist at Tel Aviv University.

"The left is perceived as distant and aloof from the nation. It has to be more empathetic and develop ways to keep in touch with society," he said.

Polster Hanoch Smith said his surveys of Israeli opinion since the start of the uprising showed a marked and continuing shift to the right.

"The people of Israel want the intifada put down and they're unrestricted," Smith said.

"The majority feel the army should be more severe. The people are definitely more hawkish than the activity of the army has been. Politically, the country is shifting

more and more to the right," Smith said in an interview.

One reason for Israelis' response is a deeply rooted perception of themselves as "perpetual victims" rather than as aggressors," Cohen said. He said this view had created insecurity and fear that often lead Israelis to stereotype and demonise Palestinians.

Smith cited results of a survey conducted last April showing that 70 per cent of Israelis believe the Arabs would destroy Israel if they could. "The Israelis see themselves as the victim all the time. No matter what happens, we're the victims and the other side is playing a more deadly game," he said.

Although his polls do not delve into the psychological reasons for responses, Smith said the explanations put forward at the conference "sound very reasonable."

"What you're describing is, when you're up against it, you dehumanise the enemy. That's a very human response," he said.

Bhutto removes intelligence chief with key Afghan role

ISLAMABAD (Agencies) — Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto has replaced the powerful army intelligence chief who distributed millions of dollars worth of American military assistance to Afghan rebels, according to a spokesman.

Lieutenant-General Hamid Gul, director general of Inter Services Intelligence (ISI), was transferred to army headquarters in neighbouring Rawalpindi, a Defence Ministry spokesman said Thursday.

The report was welcomed by Afghanistan's government, which said Gul may have been the architect of rebel attacks on Jalalabad and that his ouster could signal a softening of Pakistan's stance towards Afghanistan.

Gul provided American military assistance to the Afghan rebels, headquartered in Pakistan. His department often was criticised by moderate Afghan guerrilla groups because the radical Hezhe-e-Islami Afghan rebel group of Gulbadin Hekmatyar received the bulk of military assistance.

Gul was appointed by Pakistan's late president, Mohammad Zia Ul Haq. Zia died in August in a mysterious plane crash. Investigators blamed the crash on what they called "highly sophisticated sabotage."

Gul has reportedly been replaced by retired Army General Shamsur Rahman Kalu, said a

spokesman who cannot be identified under government rules. Zia retired Kalu after he suggested Zia should forfeit the post of army chief of staff while he was president.

Gul played a pivotal role in Pakistan's Afghan policy while Bhutto's influence had been suspect. Analysts said his replacement appeared to indicate Bhutto's growing strength.

Afghan sources who opposed the March assault on the East-ern Afghan city of Jalalabad also sulked in hundreds of casualties. After more than a month of heavy fighting, the rebels returned to their traditional siege tactics.

Gul's removal leaked out while Bhutto is on an official visit to Turkey. No official announcement was made although the Defence Ministry confirmed it.

In Kabul, Afghan Foreign Ministry spokesman Mohammad Nabi Amani said: "As head of the ISI over the past 10 years, we believe that Gul was responsible for the channelling most of the funds and arms to the guerrillas. We also believe he was the architect of the attack on Jalalabad three months ago."

"Taking a common sense view, it would mean that maybe Pakistan is not continuing to pursue a military option anymore, and that this may be a step toward a peaceful settlement with

Pakistan.

"The other argument, which I think less likely is that he had been removed because of the failure of the attacks on Khost and Jalalabad, which will now be taken by someone more militarily competent," Amani said.

The spokesman said that for the first time, government forces had gone on the offensive in Jalalabad.

"Ten days ago, they were in defence and now they are moving forward," Amani said. "We hope and desire that the filthy extremists and miscreants will soon be cleaned from Nangahar province altogether."

The failure of the assault on Jalalabad boded the morale of the Kabul government and caused widespread discontent among the rebels, according to Afghan-watchers in Islamabad.

Pakistan has up to a dozen intelligence agencies. But during Zia's 11-year rule ISI became the most powerful under his right-hand man General Akhtar Abdul Rahman.

Zia and Rehman used the agency to control the flow of arms and funds to the rebels from the United States, Western Europe, China and some Arab states, rebels and Western diplomats say. Both died in an unexplained plane crash last August.

Gul took over from Rehman two years ago.

S. Arabia to acquire French weapons

LONDON (Agencies) — France and Saudi Arabia are set to announce arms deal worth 18 billion French francs (\$2.7 billion), according to a London-based Lebanese newspaper.

Al Hayat said the deals would be announced during a visit to France by Saudi Defence Minister Prince Sultan Ibn Abdul Aziz June 5.

There was no immediate confirmation from France.

The newspaper, quoting reliable French sources, said one deal involved the supply of 3,000 surface-to-air Mistral missiles manufactured by France's Matra firm while the other was for two frigates from a three-ship package.

It quoted the same sources as saying negotiations between France and Kuwait for supply of 30 Mirage 2000 jets had ended without agreement.

It said Kuwait did not approve the 12 billion franc (\$1.8 billion) contract but further talks were expected to iron out differences.

Saudi Defence Minister Prince Sultan Ibn Abdul Aziz said in remarks published Thursday that Riyadh wanted to improve its arsenal of defensive weapons.

"The kingdom is serious about getting what it sees as necessary to guarantee the security and safety of its lands," Prince Sultan told the Saudi-owned weekly Al Majaala.

The latest edition of the London-based weekly quoted Prince Sultan as saying the Kingdom had ordered an undisclosed number of weapons from the United States. He gave no details.

Asked on possible opposition in the U.S. Congress to the deal, he said: "International arms markets are open for Saudi Arabia but our relations with the United States are close."

Military sources said Riyadh was still in the market for U.S. fighters and tanks.

Prince Sultan arrived in Athens Monday at the start of a five-nation European tour which will also take him to Britain, France, Austria and the Netherlands.

King pays tribute to Morocco

Continued from page 1

Iran, the Palestinian uprising under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the creation of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC). "We have to accelerate integration through flexible frameworks and rules which regulate this collective Arab effort," King Hussein said. "It is high time to effect adjustments to the institutions of Arab common action whereby the will of the majority will prevail."

The King said the ACC specifies its targets and draws up policies in conformity with the noble goals contained in the Arab League Charter.

He called for Arab support for the Palestinian uprising, "which embodies the Palestinian determination to regain its legitimate national rights and which has achieved a great deal mainly its ability to convince the world that the status quo is out of the question."

King Hussein said Jordan's disengagement with the West Bank gave the PLO the opportunity to shoulder its full responsibility towards the reinstatement of the Palestinian national rights.

"Our support for the PLO," the King said, "is a national task at all times and under all circumstances."

The King praised the realistic Palestinian attitude, and expressed hope that the U.S. administration will employ its influence on the Israeli stand to make it more responsive to the requirements of comprehensive and just peace, and that it will cooperate with the Soviet Union in this respect to contain the dangers inherent in the possession of the weapons of destruction by countries of the region.

On the situation in Lebanon, the King lauded the efforts of the six-member Arab League committee and expressed deep regret over the self destruction in the country. His Majesty expressed deep concern over the continuous violation of the ceasefire in Lebanon and described it as an enemy plot, and warned against the extension of destruction to other Arab countries. He called for a solution to the Lebanese crisis through rejection of all forms of fragmentation and communal differences, to commit themselves to stand against any party deviating from the Arab consensus, to concentrate on the withdrawal of the Israeli and Iranian forces from Lebanon with the cooperation of Syria and the U.N. Security Council, and to respect the full sovereignty of Lebanon over its territory, by setting up a joint

Arab force to be stationed in Lebanon for a specific period of time.

The King said it was high time for the Arabs to take over the responsibility from Syria, which entered Lebanon in the first place to stop the bloodshed and to achieve consensus among the Lebanese people.

King Hussein criticised Iranian evasiveness and procrastination towards the implementation of the provisions of Resolution 598. He urged Iran to move from the state of ceasefire to the phase of comprehensive peace, and praised Iraq's good intentions. Once the Arab Nation has made its point clear by standing united against any external aggression.

The King concluded by calling on the Arabs to benefit from the East-West breakthrough to solve problems and to serve Arab interests. All we need, said the King, "is to rally around our joint, competent, and determined will to reach our target with insistence."

King Hussein Friday met with Emir of Qatar Sheikh Khalifah Ibn Hamad Al Thani at his residence. During the meeting, the two leaders reviewed the subjects on the agenda of the summit. Present were the delegations accompanying the two leaders.

Summit endorses PLO moves

Continued from page 1

safeguards its Arab nature and territorial unity.

Delegates praised the mediation efforts of the Arab League committee of six and urged all the Lebanese parties to cooperate to reach overall national reconciliation and achieve the national entente to pave the way for a final solution of the Lebanese crisis in all its aspects.

They also called on all the Lebanese parties to respect a ceasefire immediately, permanently and fully in line with the Arab League Council resolution of April 27, 1978.

The conference also expressed support for Lebanon's international efforts to end the Israeli occupation of its territory and to support the extension of sovereignty of the Lebanese state fully over all Lebanese territory with the objective of protecting its security and stability by its own forces.

Shortly following the announcement of the summit resolutions, Hoss declared support for them, saying they would be implemented as soon as possible. There was no immediate reaction from Aoun but the Lebanese broadcasting corporation, the television station of the Lebanese Forces — the main rightist militia — said the summit had "failed to offer anything more than lip service to help resolve the Lebanon crisis." It said the summit had

also failed to devise a mechanism to monitor a ceasefire and had made no reference to the role of the Syrian army in Lebanon.

On the situation in the Gulf, the summit expressed hope that the current ceasefire between Iran and Iraq, which is viewed as a turning point, could quickly be transformed into peace.

"The conference affirmed its total solidarity with Iraq in protecting its unity, territorial integrity and historic rights to sovereignty over the Shatt Al Arab," the communiqué read.

The summit also affirmed the Arab League Council resolution condemning the U.S. attack on Libya and deplored the economic boycott imposed by the U.S. on Libya and called for the need to lift these measures. They also expressed support and backing for Libya's sovereignty over the Gulf of Sirte, in line with international charters.

The conference renewed its condemnation of terrorism "in all its shapes and forms" and affirmed the need to rely on legal methods approved by international charters and adhere to "principles of rights, justice and international legitimacy in defending national interest and achieving noble aims."

Conference delegates also affirmed the need for the Arab media to adhere to "ethical and pan-Arab standards" and to avoid insults and practices which inflame disputes.

JORDAN TELEVISION	
Tel: 77111-19	
PROGRAMME ONE	
15:30	Koran
15:40	Programme review
15:45	Children programme
17:05	Educational programme
17:30	The Friends
17:40	News summary
18:05	Message from Iraq
18:15	A play by Shakespeare
19:15	Local programme
19:40	Programme review
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Arabic series
21:05	Local programme
21:30	Arabic play
22:00	News in Arabic
22:30	Play continued
PROGRAMME TWO	
18:00	Coultures
19:00	News in French
19:15	Tanite
19:30	News in Hebrew
19:45	Natural Phenomena
20:30	News in Arabic
20:35	Growing Pains
21:00	Alfred Hitchcock presents
21:30	Saturday Variety Show
22:00	News in English
22:30	Campion
PRAYER TIMES	
05:56	Fajr
05:58	Duha
12:33	Dhuhr

CHURCHES	
16:13	'Asr
19:30	Maghreb
21:09	'Isha
CHURCHES	
St. Mary of Nazareth Church	Sweidieh, Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel.	632785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.	
The Church of the Annunciation Tel.	637440
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757	
Terrassat Church Tel. 622366	
Church of the Annunciation Tel.	623541
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel.	628543
Armenian Catholic Church Tel.	771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel.	775251
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751	
Assyrian International Church Tel.	665326
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel.	811295
Reformed Congregation Tel. 822605	
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 821264	
WEATHER	
Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.	
It will be fair and some clouds will appear in the morning. Winds will be	

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

westerly moderate to fresh causing dust in the southern and eastern areas in Aqaba, it will be dusty with northerly moderate wind and calm seas.

	Min./max. temp.
Amman	12/25
Aqaba	18/32
Deir ez Zor	15/28
Jordan Valley	17/30

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 34, Aqaba 36. Humidity readings: Amman 25 per cent, Aqaba 32 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:	
Dr. Majed Abu Snehineh	881635
Dr. Abdul Majid Al Shaar	791405
Dr. Munir Wardah	782352
Dr. Khalidoun Kloub	826919
Firdos pharmacy	661912
Firdos pharmacy	778336
Al Asana pharmacy	637055
Natourah pharmacy	636672
Al Salana pharmacy	636730
Yacoub pharmacy	644945
Shmeisati pharmacy	637660

IRBID:	
Dr. Abdul Karim Al 'Abweh	(-) (A)
Al 'Abshara' pharmacy	(985238)

ZARQA:	
Dr. Samir Lawzi	989801
Khalifeh pharmacy	985447

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department	661111
Civil Defence Immediate Rescue	630341
Civil Defence Emergency	199
Rescue Police	192 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade	891228
Blood Bank	775121
Highway Police	843402
Traffic Police	896390
Public Security Department	63021
Hotel Complaints	605800
Price Complaints	661176
Water and Sewerage	897467
Complaints	787111
Amman Municipality	121
Telephone Information (directory assistance)	010230
Overseas Calls	623101
Central Amman Telephone Repairs	623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs	661101

Jordan Television	773111
Radio Jordan	774111
Water Authority	680100
Jordan Electricity Authority	815615
Electric Power Company	636381
RJ Flight Information	08-53300
Queen Alia Int. Airport	08-53300

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:	
Hussein Medical Centre	813813/32
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn	64281/6
Akileh Maternity, J. Amn	64241/2
Jabal Amman Maternity	642362
Madhat, J. Amman	636140
Palestine, Shmeisati	66471/4
Shmeisati Hospital	669131
University Hospital	845845
Al-Musharraf Hospital	66727/9
The Islamic, Abdali	666127/37
Al-Abul, Abdali	661646
Italian, Al-Muhajreen	77101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh	77511/26
Army, Marka	891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital	602240/50
Amman Govt. Hospital	674155
ZARQA:	
Zarqa Govt. Hospital	(09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital	(09)991071
Ibn Sina Hospital	(09)986732

IRBID:	
Princess Basma Hospital	(02)275555
Greek Catholic Hospital	(02)272275
Ibn Al Nafies Hospital	(02)247100
AQABA:	
Princess Haya Hospital	(03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)33200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

05:30	Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
05:55	Bangkok (RJ)
10:00	New Delhi (RJ)
10:15	Amman (RJ)
10:30	Damascus (RJ)
10:35	Cairo (RJ)
10:50	Karachi, Dubai (RJ)
10:55	Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RJ)



Her Majesty Queen Noor Thursday chairs the first meeting of the Aqaba chapter of the Business and Professional Women Association (Photo by George Crystal)

Queen Noor chairs first meeting

BPWA establishes Aqaba chapter

AQABA (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor visited Aqaba Thursday and attended part of the first constituent meeting of the Business and Professional Women Association (BPWA) which was held at the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) centre of the port city.

The constituent meeting discussed the general projects and aims of the Association and the need to establish a branch in Aqaba to help local women participate in the national effort towards socio-economic development in Jordan.

According to an association spokeswoman the branch in Aqaba will help NHF's efforts in encouraging housewives carry out duties and activities designed to improve the standard of their own families and also conduct voluntary and charitable programmes in the Aqaba area.

NHF Director General Mrs. Inam Al Mufri said that the

Majali receives U.S. gift

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Culture and Information Nasouh Majali has received a total of 5,000 American books translated into Arabic from U.S. Ambassador in Amman Rusco Suddarth. The books were delivered to the Libraries and National Documentation Department (LNDD) within the framework of the programme of cultural exchange between the two countries.

Majali thanked the U.S. ambassador and hoped that the existing cooperation in the cultural and information fields would continue. The U.S. ambassador said that the present was designed to bolster Jordanian cultural progress and promote cultural cooperation between the two countries.

The LNDD director general said that these books would be added to the collection of books available and that some extra books would be donated to public libraries affiliated with the LNDD.

The collection of books includes the most important works in American literature in addition to others in the fields of science, economy, journalism, history, and international relations.

Cairo seminar urges Arabs to monitor environment

CAIRO (Petra) — A five-day meeting held here to discuss environmental and food contamination and means to deal with the problem, has ended with a set of recommendations, according to Dr. Ibrahim Badran, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources' secretary general who represented Jordan at the meeting.

Badran said that the seminar urged Arab states to maintain their monitoring of the environment and to establish specialised networks to monitor nuclear radiation into the environment and to intensify their efforts to examine foodstuffs that are being imported by the Arab World.

The seminar called for an exchange of information among Arab research and monitoring stations and a greater measure of cooperation among Arab organisations dealing with contamination of the atmosphere and food supplies, Badran noted. He said that the seminar urged Arab states to manufacture their own electronic devices that help detect radiation and to re-adjust their legislations and laws in a manner that can introduce meaningful inter-Arab cooperation in curtailing pollution and contamination to the environment.

Badran last Tuesday addressed the seminar warning that the Arab World food imports estimated to be worth \$30 billion annually should be thoroughly examined against radiation and contamination.

He said that the seminar aimed to encourage Arab states to unify specifications employed in measuring the amount of radiation and ways to monitor radiation in the atmosphere.

Jordanian industrial fair opens in Tunis

TUNIS (Petra) — Jordan opened its fourth industrial fair here, displaying a variety of manufactured products by 80 Jordanian businesses and companies.

The fair was opened by Tunisian Minister of National Economy Al Muneef Baleid who delivered an address, lauding economic and trade ties between Jordan and Tunisia and praising the high quality of the Jordanian products which, he said, are in demand in the Tunisian markets.

Jordanian Charge d'Affaires in Tunis Maher Nashashibi made a speech on the occasion, voicing Jordan's appreciation to the Tunisian government for the facilities given to Jordan to organise the fair. The fourth fair, he noted, manifests Jordan's determination to promote its economic and trade links with Tunisia.

Ministers, officials and other guests then toured the fair which displays samples of Jordanian pharmaceutical, leather, and engineering products, as well as carpet, clothing, plastics, food supplies, chemicals, furniture, cosmetics, scent and handicraft industries.

The fair can sell directly to the public products worth \$2.5 million in accordance with a bilateral agreement, according to officials from the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

Jordan and Tunisia are linked by a 1987 trade and economic cooperation agreement which provides for the sale of \$30 million worth of products annually to be divided equally between the two sides.

According to the officials, Jordan's exports to Tunisia mainly include: gas stoves, refrigerators, carpets, heaters, and potash, but it imports Tunisian olive oil, fertilisers and textile products.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent Thursday inspects Al Risha power station site accompanied by Minister of Energy Hisham Khatib (left) and JEA Director General Mohammad Arafah (right)

Jordan celebrates Independence Day

Regent opens first gas-run power station

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Thursday celebrated its 43rd independence anniversary with a number of ceremonies and celebrations held in different towns and areas of the country.

The main celebration was held at Al Risha area in the eastern regions of Jordan where His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, inaugurated a power plant near the natural gas fields.

In an address on the occasion, Prince Hassan paid tribute to the officials, engineers and workers of the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) and the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) who took charge of gas exploration and drilling operations and the installation of the gas powered plant.

Prince Hassan referred to the badda region where the Risha gas fields are located and called for efforts to help develop that region. He urged the ministries of Agriculture, Energy and Mineral Resources as well as the Water and Irrigation, Industry and Trade and Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment to join forces in this endeavour.

Later, Prince Hassan heard a briefing on the power plant which was built on 250 square metres and which is powered by two 30-megawatt gas turbines which feed the national grid that supplies power to various parts of the

country. According to JEA estimates the Risha power plant contributes around 15 per cent of the total amount of electric power generated for the national grid.

JEA Director General Mohammad Arafah said experimental tests on the power station started two months ago. The NRA is charged with prospecting for oil and gas and together with JEA, it aims to exploit oil and gas for power generation and reduce the Kingdom's dependence on imported fuel supplies.

After the briefing, the Regent toured the gas fields whose total daily production is estimated at 35 million cubic feet. Present with Prince Hassan at the ceremony were Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, cabinet ministers and officials.

Also on the occasion of Independence Day, Prince Hassan inaugurated Al Qadisiyah public garden in Amman in the presence of Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh and the mayor of Baghdad Khaled Abdul Munem Rashid.

Both mayors made speeches on the occasion, lauding the strong ties and cooperation between Amman and Baghdad.

Later, Prince Hassan and dignitaries present at the ceremony, planted palm tree saplings which came to Jordan as a present from Baghdad. Scores of scouts and school students and a huge crowd of people took part in the tree-planting ceremony.

Al Qadisiyah garden has been set up by the municipality on 20 dunums of land; and apart from the palm trees, it is being planted with lemon and different types of flowers and plants.

The Ministry of Education organised a huge sports and youth festival at Al Hussein Youth City stadium in Amman to mark the independence anniversary. Thousands of male and female students took part in the festival which was watched by Minister of Education Abdullah Nsour and other dignitaries. On the Independence Day anniversary, the Royal Court received cables of good wishes addressed to His Majesty King Hussein. The cables came from Jordanian dignitaries and heads of different organisations as well as from kings and heads of state of Arab and foreign friendly nations.

The King received cables from the leaders of North Yemen, South Yemen, Britain, Pakistan, France, Maldives, Thailand, West Germany, Philippines, Italy, Butan, India, Albania, and Luxembourg.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

- ★ The May art exhibition at Al Wasiti Art Gallery, Plaza Hotel.
- ★ A photography exhibition by Adib Atwan at the Spanish Cultural Centre.
- ★ An archaeological exhibition entitled "The Treasures of Hasma Desert" at the Department of Antiquities Registration Centre.
- ★ An art exhibition by three North African artists at Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation.
- ★ An art exhibition by Ahmad Abu Othman at the Housing Bank Gallery.
- ★ An exhibition of paintings, educational facilities, computers, scientific laboratories and handicrafts at the Yarmouk University Model School.
- ★ A photography exhibition entitled "Amman Under King Hussein's Reign" at the North Roman Catholic School, Zarqa.
- ★ An art exhibition by Jordanian artist Klara Matschokhian at the Petra Bank Gallery.
- ★ A concert by American opera singer Rosana Schutte at the Royal Cultural Centre — 8:00 p.m.
- ★ A French video entitled "L'Esprit des Lois" (spirit of laws) at the French Cultural Centre — 4:00 p.m.
- ★ A children's Arabic play entitled "Tanbouri's Shoes" at the Royal Cultural Centre — 10:00 a.m., 4:00 p.m.
- ★ An exhibition of scientific experiments, Jordanian chemical industries, books, computers and children's paintings at the University of Jordan Model School.
- ★ A photography exhibition by Sigrid Neubert on "the Goethe Forest" (near Dana Village between Tafila and Shobak) at the Royal Cultural Centre — 5:00 p.m.
- ★ An exhibition by French artist "Olivier Mutilled" at the French Cultural Centre — 6:00 p.m.

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Jordan Times

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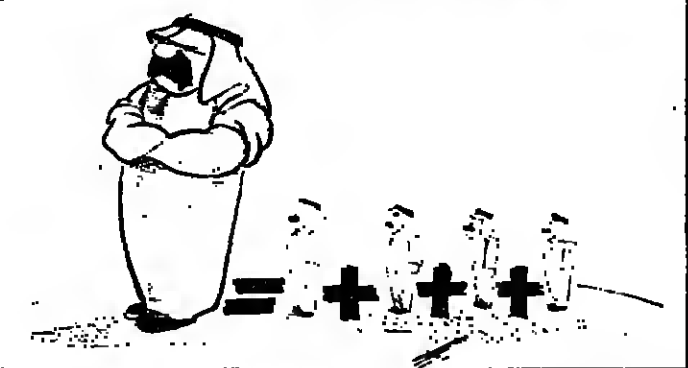
Jordan Times Advertising Department.

Twisting arms

THE ARABS cannot but heave a sigh of relief that the gathering of their leaders in Casablanca managed to produce a compromise over the Lebanese conflict, an issue which at one point threatened to undermine all that the summit managed to achieve in the way of Egypt's readmission to the Arab League and the wholehearted support the Arabs extended to the peace strategy adopted by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). While a careful look at the fine print of the resolution on Lebanon might raise eyebrows of some headline critics in the Arab World, the fact remains that it was what could have been achieved under the circumstances, and the upgrading to head-of-state level of the committee on Lebanon should, in itself, serve as a bright indicator of the seriousness of the efforts that the league is expected to exert in the next six months to find a formula to end the 15-year-old Lebanese strife.

The Arab World can also take heart from the endorsement of Egypt's formal return to the Arab League and the total support that the summit gave to the PLO in its endeavours for a negotiated settlement to the Palestinian problem. The pledge the Arab leaders made to continue their support for the intifada and their call on the United Nations Security Council to adopt action against Israel's oppressive measures against the Palestinian people under occupation should serve as the strongest sign yet of the Arab World's total identification with the struggle of the Palestinian people. Needless to say, hopes are high that the Arab leaders would live up to their commitments to the Palestinian people and also extend material and financial support for the intifada in addition to the moral boost the liberation struggle received in Casablanca.

As Arab summit resolutions go, the decisions adopted in Casablanca leave no doubt over the intentions of the Arab World to seek a negotiated settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict. The Casablanca resolution comes as a reaffirmation of the undeniable realities that should govern a just and comprehensive solution of the Palestinian problem and reinforces the moderate, realistic position adopted by the PLO. Quite simply, the summit has more than met with the call made by U.S. President George Bush to endorse the PLO peace strategy and the appeal issued by Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachev for a united Arab voice. The hall is now squarely in the superpower and Israeli courts and the Arabs are indeed in a stronger position to demand from the superpowers to twist arms wherever and whenever necessary and leave the Palestinians alone and not to make any demands for concessions from them until and unless Israel reciprocates in deeds the Arab move for peace.



JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i daily along with the other two local newspapers Friday commented on King Hussein's address at the Arab summit's closed session in Casablanca Thursday. The paper said that the speech contained elements in line with Jordan's pan-Arab orientation and ideas that would ensure continued solidarity among the Arab countries. King Hussein had welcomed the return of Egypt to the Arab fold as part of pan-Arab efforts to consolidate the Arab position in the face of common challenges. The King also expressed total support for the PLO leadership and its current endeavours to regain Palestinian people's rights and establish peace, the paper noted. He called on the Arab World to support the intifada and enable the Palestinians regain their rights and their freedom. The King's call for dispatching Arab forces to Lebanon reflected his concern over the situation there and his keenness on helping the Lebanese people regain their sovereignty and their unity, the paper added. But the King noted all foreign forces especially those sent in by Israel should first be withdrawn from Lebanon so that the embattled country can find peace.

Al Dustour daily said that the King's speech in Casablanca reminded the Arabs of their duty to support the Palestinians in their struggle for freedom and the need to support Iraq in its quest for peace and stability in the Gulf region. Indeed joint action has enabled the Arabs to attain successes on the political scene and bolstered Iraq's stand in the face of Iranian aggression, two points which the King mentioned in his speech before the leaders, the paper noted. It said that since his hosting of the Amman summit which resulted in consensus and agreement among the Arabs, King Hussein has been able to consolidate Arab ranks and render meaningful support for the Palestinians and the Iraqis in their struggle against aggression. King Hussein's address at the summit, it added, reflected Jordan's determination to continue efforts to help the Arabs attain their aspirations.

Sawt Al Shaab daily said that the King's speech was clearly aimed at maintaining unity of ranks among the Arabs at a crucial moment in Arab history. The King's speech presented a diagnosis of the Arab World's ills and proposals for remedy and for joint action to maintain the momentum for progress and development, the paper noted. The King's address reflected his responsibility as an Arab leader who saw in the Amman summit's resolutions as a basis for agreement and consensus that should be built on for the sake of bolstering the ranks of the Arab World, the paper added. It said that King Hussein's proposals over Lebanon reflected his concern to provide a unified Arab force reflecting the will of the Arab Nation and aiming to help Lebanon regain peace.

Solidarity mounts lively challenge in Polish elections

By Andrew Tarnowski
Reuters

WARSAW — Even the Communists say Solidarity is running the best and brightest campaign in Poland's first partly-free parliamentary elections since 1947.

A month after emerging from seven years of illegality, the independent union is leading an energetic opposition challenge that is outclassing the Communists' lacklustre campaign.

"I am riding the Solidarity tank to freedom," declares Solidarity leader Lech Walesa, punching the air at rallies across the country and pledging to crowds of thousands that the next elections in four years will be fully democratic.

Solidarity candidates are standing for every seat in a new 100-seat senate but for only 161 in the 460-member Sejm (lower house). That is the maximum 35 per cent they can contest under a pact with the Communists and their allies.

The other 65 per cent of the Sejm seats have been allotted to pro-government groups and will be contested only among their members in the two rounds of voting on June 4 and 18.

By Western standards Solidarity's campaign is strapped for cash, low-key and unobtrusive in much of the countryside as it battles to win control of the senate and 35 per cent of the Sejm.

Its access to the media consists of 500,000 copies of a single election newspaper in a country of 38 million people, and radio and TV broadcasts of up to 20 minutes each daily.

It faces a nationwide spoiling

campaign with many posters torn down or defaced. On some the word Jew has been scrawled.

Even so, Solidarity's campaign is the liveliest Poland has seen in 40 years.

"Come with us — Solidarity," says a huge banner outside its main Warsaw election office as protest songs from Solidarity's 1980-81 first period as a legal trade union blare across the monumental Constitution Square.

Queues snap up solidarity stickers and lollipops, get voting information and make donations as trams rattle by with freshly-painted Solidarity election ads on their sides.

At other offices balloons fly Solidarity banners or volunteers sell T-shirts with the Solidarity candidate's name.

Snappy jingles introduce Solidarity candidates on radio and TV. Billboards, shop windows and church noticeboards sprout posters with the familiar red-and-white logo flying the Polish flag.

At election rallies across the country, Solidarity candidates tear into the Communist system, telling the crowds their votes can dismantle dictatorship and start lifting Poland out of backwardness.

Solidarity election managers forecast almost clean sweeps in big city strongholds like Warsaw, Gdansk and Krakow.

In the villages, where Solidarity is weaker and less organised, parish priests are openly giving crucial support in this overwhelmingly Catholic country.

Both camps forecast a big turnout, possibly 80 per cent. Some

Communist officials agree with opposition estimates that Solidarity will win 70 per cent of the seats it is contesting.

With less than two weeks to go, the Communists are apparently beginning to realise they are out-classed.

"Official propaganda looks pale compared with the opposition campaign," wrote Daniel Pasent, deputy editor of the Communist Party ideological weekly Polityka.

"The difference of temperament, vigour, commitment, enthusiasm and combativeness is visible," he added. "Solidarity has things which the others do not have — a message and the enthusiasm with which it proclaims it."

Information Minister Jerzy Urban, a star official candidate running as a non-party independent in Warsaw, grumbled that Solidarity's team looked unstoppable.

"I am worried that Solidarity is forgetting about pluralism," Urban complained to 300 student cooks at his first election meeting. "Solidarity is marching towards electoral victory in serial ranks."

Officials even wonder whether top Communists like Prime Minister Mieczyslaw Rakowski and seven other politburo members on a special 35-man "national list" will get into the Sejm.

Candidates on the list face no opposition but need 50 per cent of the votes cast to be elected. Officials angrily accuse Solidarity of urging voters to cross out the entire list. Unsigned posters have appeared in Warsaw telling them to do so.

Words make waves

By Victoria Brittain

BUBBLING revolt among journalists in Algeria's state-controlled media broke into the open last week as both television and daily papers published a long attack on manipulation of the media by the country's leadership.

The Movement of Algerian Journalists (MJA), which began a year ago, has become a front runner in the country's current struggle for democracy which MJA members describe as "identical to what is going on in Eastern Europe."

All the media in Algeria is state owned. Over the last two decades it has been equally known for its sophisticated professionalism and for its high level of self-censorship. "There are 1,001 methods of repression: some journalists were forbidden to write, some to sign their articles, some to travel, some to have passports. The profession has been so battered here, and our work so deformed, that we had lost credibility not only with the general public, but among ourselves," said one MJA member.

However in April last year, largely in revolt against censorship, the MJA was formed. By August the journalists demands had crystallised around a joint management/journalists committee which, in any media organisation, would decide on the content of papers and broadcasts. The then minister of information had agreed to this demand when the October riots intervened to change the entire political landscape.

Journalists of the MJA, on Oct. 10 last year, were the first to condemn the wave of repression, arrests and torture which followed the Oct. 5 rioting, in a document signed by 70 journalists. This emergence of an autonomous organisation meant the end of the official journalists union in Algeria, had been part of the ruling Front de Liberation National (FLN) structures.

That was a turning point for Algerian journalists in the escalating struggle for control of their own work which came into the open last week. "Something broke in October — fear," said one MJA delegate. The death toll of the well-known journalist Sidali Ben Niche from an army bullet while following a funeral procession in October has left an indelible mark on the profession.

After the promises of a new democracy which followed the riots its limits appeared almost immediately when the Oran-based paper El Djoumbouria on Jan. 19 published documents on a corruption scandal over the allocation of housing and land which apparently implicated an influential family in the west of the country. The managing editor of the paper was arrested and then smartly dismissed, while the two women journalists responsible for the articles were also arrested and then freed on bail.

In February, as the new constitution guaranteeing the right to freedom of expression and association was under discussion,

journalists protesting about the El Djoumbouria case and about a wave of intolerance against young women, came under pressure. But the impetus towards change remained strong, and within days journalists on the biggest daily paper 'El Moujahid', selling 350,000 copies a day, were on strike demanding the joint management/journalists' editorial committee first sought last year.

The strike lasted a month, during which the paper, kept going by the managing editor and a handful of journalists, appeared with only news agency copy in it. The strike ended with the ministry of information allowing such committees within all Algerian press organs. The committees meet two or three times a week now and are the scene of sharp power struggles between management and journalists in the reform movement who appear to be in the vast majority.

Recent dramatic salary increases of around 40 per cent which have, the journalists say, made them "very privileged," have not done anything to blunt the sharp tone of the MJA's most recent communiqué last week, or affected the substantial turnout of about 300 journalists to a general meeting during the crisis of last week.

The "Algerie Actualite Affair," as the crisis is known after a popular weekly magazine, blew up last week when an editorial entitled "The Right To Criticise" was taken out of Algeria Actualite part way through the print run, on the orders of the ministry of information. The article, written by the managing

director of the paper, Kamel Belkacem, generally believed to be a journalist close to the presidency, was sharply critical of the performance of the current government. Ministry officials decided it was unsuitable to run as the editorial in a government paper, though they were prepared for it to be printed as an individual's contribution. However a stinging attack on the ministry's decision came immediately from the official recognised Algeria League of Human Rights and the television news devoted a lengthy slot to the row between different branches of the government.

The MJA intervened the following day with a general meeting of journalists which took nine hours to agree a tough communiqué denouncing the "Algerie Actualite Affair" as not merely an issue of censorship, but as illustrating the practice of manipulation of the press in "the fierce struggle between different political factions."

The publication of the communiqué in full in El Moujahid took a battle in the management/journalists committee which lasted until 8 p.m. and involved the recourse by the journalists to the ministry of information itself. It is this blunt demand for independence which sets apart the MJA in a society where powerful interests have for years used the press with consummate skill.

An Information Code which will establish the legal framework of journalists' independence is currently under discussion by the government, though the journalists themselves have yet to be consulted — The Guardian.



Reconciliation better than bloodshed

By David Krivine

THE CONFLICT inside Israel over the Shamir-Rabin peace talks plan is a conflict for the soul of the Jewish people. The country is splitting in two, between those who want to end the intifada by negotiation, and those who want to subdue it by force — which would make negotiation superfluous.

One side asks: why should territories beyond the Green Line, densely populated with Arabs, be forcibly annexed to the Jewish state? The intifada has made it clear — if clarification is necessary — that the Palestinians oppose to the depth of their being, any subjection to Jewish rule.

The other side says: Jews cannot live or travel safely inside their own homeland, which is an unacceptable situation. There is only one answer: make the Palestinians capitulate.

The Likud side is not prepared to negotiate a political solution. That is made clear in the "three noes" tabled before the prime minister by his deputy David Levy: no to any peace talks before the intifada is halted; no to the participation of East Jerusalem in the elections; and no to territorial concessions.

Shamir does not disagree, his only objection being to Levy's demand that the three noes be incorporated in the cabinet document. The right-wingers' insistence on this point reveals their antagonism to the whole idea of negotiation, and their preference for settling the conflict by force of arms. The first side says: we used to think the Arabs would be happy living in our midst. We offered them better material conditions and, sure enough, those dwelling inside Israel accept the status quo.

The Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza reject it; and

there is a reason. Israeli Arabs enjoy full and equal citizenship. The Palestinians do not; they are ruled by the army; and there is a reason for that, too. We cannot give them full and equal citizenship because if we do they will — in the course of time — outnumber us and we shall become an ethnic minority in Zion.

We persisted nevertheless, the Labour side admit. We thought we could have our cake and eat it. We would give the Palestinians full employment, we would offer them well-paid jobs and they would relinquish all nationalistic aspirations. "There is no such thing," Golda Meir used to say, "as a Palestinian."

She was wrong and we were wrong. Labour concede — the intifada proves that completely. Let us give credit where credit is due: the intifada is an authentic and (to the Palestinians) legitimate political uprising. They pay dearly for their insurgency: in killed and wounded, in lengthy goal sentences, in the closure of schools and universities, in the loss of income and employment. Yet they maintain their struggle. They see themselves as fighting for a cause, just as we do.

Israel can adopt Sharon's ruthless policies, they have increasing popular support. But we should be clear what that means. It will make havoc of what we have always seen as Jewish civilization. Humanistic Judaism will go by the board, to be replaced by a species of gun-toting religious chauvinism.

That will spell a moral victory for the PLO. They will have succeeded in brutalising the Jewish people — and to what purpose? Wiping out Palestinian nationalism in the occupied territories requires a severity that is no longer on the cards.

The colonial powers could do it in former times. Their methods

are described graphically in a recently-published novel by Thomas Flanagan, dealing with the subjugation of a (French-aided) Irish rebellion in 1798. Called The Year of the French, the book depicts "the dead in the streets of Killalee, the obscene weights upon the Calabar gibbet, the peasants hounded down in the Belmullet wastes."

These methods are inadmissible today; yet anything less will not work. We should look around us: during the last half-century, subject nationalities have shaken off foreign rule in every corner of the globe. Each time the army with the big guns is thwarted by barehanded but desperate partisans.

Suppose, nevertheless, that we succeed in forcing the Palestinians to their knees: what kind of bi-national Jewish state will result? Anybody believing that the population of Judea, Samaria and Gaza are going to become a bunch of peace-loving, neighbourly fellow-citizens, loyal to Israel's rule and never raising a hand against the Jews, is nursing an illusion.

The hawkish side retort: Judea, Samaria and Gaza are not colonies, they are an indissoluble part of Eretz Yisrael. The Arabs possess 22 states in the Middle East. The 23rd state is Israel, and it is Jewish. It is going to remain that way, whatever the Palestinians say.

The Jews of Israel are split in two. On one side stand the advocates of violence. They treat the Arabs as an enemy who cannot be trusted. "Remember Amalek," they warn.

The other side sees the Jews as people, and the Arabs as people also, each with different interests. Both nationalities have to make sacrifices, reconciliation is better than bloodshed.

Which side is closer to God? — The Jerusalem Post.

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Ancient science flourishes in India

By Helene Bourdon

NEW DELHI — While traditional doctors pore over scanner images and supermicroscopes, Dr. B. Ramas Pati Triguna is content with taking his patients' pulse, on both wrists. For about two minutes he seems to listen intently to a coded message that only he understands.

Then he smiles the reassuring smile of the old family doctor. "Your organs are all well," he tells this reporter, "but the nervous system could be better; you stay up too late at night, you watch too much television." Other comments follow, astounding considering that he has never seen his "patient" before.

No medicines are needed, just "better behaviour," the doctor says. It's a relief since the herbal concoctions he prescribes most often are reputedly quite pungent.

The ride to the doctor's clinic in old Delhi could have accounted for some of the stress the patient felt. Finding the quiet, tree-shaded clinic requires braving crazy traffic — the only rule is that anything goes — and then walking the last half-mile down dirt lanes bordered by tiny shops and where oxen and cows have the right of way.

A leading figure in the field of Ayurvedic medicine in India and abroad, Dr. Triguna operates with his son, Dr. Devinder Triguna, a small clinic that draws hundreds of patients every day from all over India; some even come from foreign countries to try the doctors' natural remedies made from thousands of herbs, precious stones, metals and other minerals.

Almost every country has its own homeopathic healing, the young Dr. Triguna explained, but Ayurvedic medicine is different because the use of natural remedies was elevated to the rank of science by Indian researchers thousands of years ago.

Vedic tradition
Rooted in India's Vedic tradi-

tion, Ayurveda is considered by some to be the source of modern medicine. Ancient vedic writings show striking similarities in both theory and practice with the Greek Hippocratic tradition.

"We know exactly what part of a specific herb cures what diseases," Dr. Devinder Triguna explained. "It's all in the books... 'Ayu' is life, and 'veda' is knowledge. It's not a religion, but rather a set of guidelines to help man lead a fuller life by preventing disease, treating it when it happens, and teaching 'good behaviour'."

But don't look for the key to eternal youth, he quips: "It adds life to your years, not years to your life."

Dr. B. Ramas Pati Triguna's recipe for a fuller life is at the same time quite simple and a challenge to modern man, always on the run and cut off from his roots. It's a three-pronged approach focusing on personal habits and family and social interaction.

First, the doctor notes, all individuals are unique, so you must find the diet that suits you (it changes with the seasons, your age and sex) and eat regulated amounts: "All diseases come from misuse of the brain; for example, you know your stomach is full, but still you eat, it's like you see a red light at a road crossing but you go through!" Then, he adds, your life must be regular: eat, go to sleep at the same time each day. "Today you go to sleep at 10 p.m., yesterday at midnight, tomorrow at 1 a.m., it will give you brain disease!" Once your life's rhythm follows a regular pattern, it must become part of a family relationship and social life that includes love and respect of the elders. "A man who wants to live a long life, he should be happy first of all," the doctor says.

Ironically, many of the patients who come to the clinic have little to be cheerful about. They are poor and can pay only a nominal fee for the natural medicines the doctor prescribes; they often suffer from chronic ailments that modern medicine failed to cure.

Even terminally ill cancer patients show up. If they come soon enough the problem can sometimes be cleared, the doctors claim.

Cases tend to vary with the seasons — in the late fall there are many cases of fever, malaria, jaundice. But there are also the happy occasions "when a young woman comes with her mother-in-law to be told if she is pregnant... I can tell because the little pulse is 5% stronger," the older doctor says. He deplored the fact that prenatal and postnatal care is not available to the majority of Indian women.

Quite willing to cooperate with modern medicine, Dr. B. Ramas Pati Triguna urges parents to have their children vaccinated, but he also reminds older women to pass on to their daughters the knowledge of some traditional remedies.

In modern India city dwellers have better access to health care than farmers, he explained, but chemical pollution of the food chain and the environment is becoming a problem.

Rumour has it that Dr. B. Ramas Pati Triguna has won many battles against illness and pain. The minerals and herbs he uses, some of which he harvests in the Himalayas in the fall and spring, are stored in neatly catalogued jars and cans occupying dozens of shelves at the clinic. Doses are given out in small plastic bags that the patient takes home with specific directives as to how much must be ingested, when and with what ingredient (usually milk, water or honey).

Pollution and the destruction of natural habitats in India threaten flora that is very important to Ayurvedic medicine, the Trigunas said, adding that they are working with the department of forestry to protect some species and grow others so they remain available and affordable. Some indigenous plants found in India only are exported to Ayurvedic doctors abroad, especially in Brazil.

Ayurvedic doctors of the 1980s claim to be the repositories of



Dr. B. Ramas Pati Triguna, an expert in Ayurvedic medicine, a traditional Indian science.

very old scientific knowledge that may well have been lost if it had not become the focus of attention a few decades ago as a byproduct of a renewed interest in ancient philosophies.

Research centres

Not content with surviving in an age that produces medical discoveries almost everyday, Ayurvedic doctors are looking for expansion of their knowledge and cooperation with medical professionals worldwide. Ayurvedic research centres exist in several locations in the United States and in Brazil, Holland, Germany and Italy. Two states in Brazil recently gave legal status to vedic clinics and pharmacies, and doctors in India and Brazil are cooperating in the study of Brazilian flora's healing properties. Meanwhile, Ayurvedic centres in the U.S. and Europe are contributing to AIDS and cancer research.

Gearing up for the 21st century, the Indian Ayurvedic community is planning the creation of "Veda Land," a 500-acre park that would cost from 10 to 15 million U.S. dollars, Dr. Devinder Triguna explained. "People who come will be able to learn about the vedas and Indian culture."

India reportedly has about 400,000 vedic doctors, a lot more

than when Dr. B. Ramas Pati Triguna started his career 47 years ago. The new generation tends to take regular medical courses besides attending Ayurvedic colleges. There are about 40 of them in India and studies last for 5 and a half years. Some students go on to vedic graduate schools and research institutes.

In almost half a century, Dr. B. Ramas Pati Triguna rose to the top of his profession, being named president of the All India Ayurveda Congress and Honorary Physician of the President of India.

"Practice makes perfect, that, and knowledge of the books," his son notes. Also very important is that "we should not make it a business; a doctor should see the poor people, diagnose the ailment and give proper treatment, but he must treat the patient as a person, not a source of income... We should work for the people so that society can be disease-free and mankind live a happier life."

The younger Dr. Triguna has achieved notoriety in his own

right; he often attends medical conferences abroad. The trips are his vacations, he said, the rest of his time is spent at the Delhi clinic with his father.

Do they see progress in man's most recent endeavours? The answer is a qualified "yes." One problem is that researchers making scientific discoveries are not looking at the side effects and the drawbacks, the two doctors say. Every detail is part of a whole that must be considered. Too often modern scientists have a fragmented view of life.

It's difficult to see progress in the world because there is no common standard, the Trigunas add. Each culture is progressing at its own pace. "You cannot decide whether people are doing right or wrong," Dr. B. Ramas Pati Triguna says with a smile, "and happiness is relative. How would you like to share the chapati (crepe) and onion that the poor farmer eats in his field? Yet the farmer prays that God give the whole world this sweet and tasty meal."

A peasant who is Africa's Michelangelo

HARARE — In a continent of vast artistic wealth that has won acclaim and admiration throughout the world, Henry Munyaradzi is a rare prize.

In stone sculpture he has been compared to Michelangelo. His works can fetch more than \$30,000 in the hard-nosed art markets of Los Angeles, London and Paris.

He is highly placed among the ten most acclaimed sculptors in the world. And five of these are, like Munyaradzi, Zimbabweans.

The eulogies — and money — that Munyaradzi has generated in the world of art have not changed this African artist. He remains in spirit and practice a peasant, working on a farm near Harare with his wife and nine children, planting crops and herding 40 cattle.

He was 37 before his flair for stone sculpture was discovered 22 years ago. He had no training in art. Indeed he had no schooling at all.

Many experts now believe that it is Munyaradzi's total simplicity and artistic innocence that make him a great sculptor. It is a belief that reverses Western ideas that master artists are the product of long education and study.

The school of Zimbabwean stone sculptors has thrown such thinking out of gear. For all the Zimbabwean masters are peasants. None has had artistic training, and yet they now represent the summit of African artistic achievement.

Munyaradzi accepts the view

that his work is not encumbered by learning. He does not plan or draw projects, or measure the stone he works on. He believes the sort of planning and measuring undertaken by Western sculptors may destroy their spontaneity.

Instead he thinks simply of a form waiting to be revealed in stone. It is, he says, an essentially Zimbabwean approach, deeply rooted in Shona culture.

The Zimbabwean artists' efforts to preserve Shona tradition has a clear social significance at a time when many young Zimbabweans are rejecting rural lifestyles in favour of big city culture. Munyaradzi sees the drift to the cities as a tragic loss of identity.

He says: "I hope that when young people see my work they might reflect on the history and significance of the rural life they come from."

He also believes that Zimbabwean art has a lesson for people in the West, standing as a reminder that "nature is not just a field of exploitation but a place of beauty and dignity."

The Zimbabwean school of sculpture owes much to Tom Blomfield, who set up an art community in Tengenenge in 1966, after sanctions against what was then Rhodesia had bankrupted his farm. Munyaradzi joined the group in 1967, and wider recognition soon followed as the ten members of the community began to display their work at the National Gallery. (Lions feature)

A school for all nations

By Helene Bourdon

NEW YORK — When Sapna Muragali goes to school in the morning, she steps into a world where more than 100 nations are represented and where most existing languages are spoken. Her best friend is from Cyprus, another good friend comes from Iran. "They all mix together," Sapna explains. "We get to learn about everyone's culture and how they live. There is no prejudice."

Those who think such a place cannot be real have only to stop by the United Nations International School (UNIS), on the bank of New York City's East River. The private school was created in 1947 to provide an education for the children of U.N. staff and diplomats, but local families are also taking advantage of the unique opportunity of a truly international education, from the elementary level through high school.

"International" also applies to the teaching staff, drawn from about 40 countries. In some cases, individual countries pay the salary of teacher from that nation.

While cultural exchanges are fun, the school also has a rigorous programme, Sapna says. Waiting for her at the end of her senior year this spring is a baccalaureat exam, widely regarded as the equivalent of two years of college in the United States. During her junior and senior year she must take three higher-level subjects — she chose biology, philosophy and English — and three lower-level subjects — math, chemistry and French. Credits for social service are also required.

Can young people whose cultures differ so widely really study together in harmony? "There might be a conflict between students during a classroom discussion, however that does not interfere with their friendship with each other," Sapna says. She remembers a heated exchange on the situation in Libya and the U.S. said there, but she adds, the teacher stopped it by explaining that even if one does not agree with a government's action, there should be no animosity against the people themselves.

As an example, she says, take "my friend who is the daughter of the ambassador of Cyprus; she is a good friend of a Turkish girl." Sapna attributes the spirit of tolerance instilled in the 1400 young people currently enrolled to the proximity of the United Nations (a little further up the river) and the school's ties to this organisation. Sapna and fellow students often listen to speeches and discussions at the U.N., and they also organise their own conferences there. Graduation even takes place in the General Assembly hall.

Says Sapna: "We want peace. Last year we had a conference



Natalie Saget, a 1988 UNIS graduate from Haiti at the United Nations podium for graduation ceremonies. Saget was named the 1988 U Thant Scholar.

titled "The Cost of War and the Price of Peace." It was on how to promote the idea of making peace in the world, and how we, as students, can help... We also helped publicise the special session on disarmament; we made buttons and flyers to make people aware of the problem, and we gave speeches in other schools... Nowadays, you know, people die here, people die there, from that war, and kids think this is a normal, everyday thing."

"We don't want them to think that way; we want them to think it's a very important issue, because if we can achieve world peace and avoid World War III, we will feel proud, and we are the generation that has to do it."

Not surprisingly, another topic of concern for the young who will deal with the 21st century is the preservation of the earth's natural resources. "There is so much in the environment that we don't know and we take for granted," Sapna muses. "We don't really care at the moment, but it's going to hit us in 50 years."

The difference between Sapna and many other teenagers is that she obviously cares about what goes on around her, be it at the U.N. or in the streets. When talking to her, one also feels an inner strength, maybe born partly from daily contact with so many cultures. There is compassion, too.

Some parents may fear that having children study in a cultural hodgepodge would make them lose their cultural identity. Yet, the variety itself ensures that no particular culture is pushed on UNIS students. They are presented with a smorgasbord that gives them points of reference and breeds tolerance. They learn from the start that it's OK to be different.

"I always feel closest to my Indian culture," Sapna says. She

can't remember disliking a classmate because of his skin colour or his religion, except for a brief moment when India's Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was assassinated by Sikh extremists. "I heard it on the radio in the morning, and I could not believe it," she recalls. "I had this outrage, this really terrible anger towards the Sikhs, and then I saw her, from that war, and kids think this is a normal, everyday thing."

When she returns to her native India, she feels much more mature than students her age, whose life is very simple, she says. Not everyone has TV or a phone; they go home to be with their families. "In Bombay as in New York, women are equally capable of doing work as men are, and they worry about careers, but there is a wide gap between the rich and the poor. The rich just want to get their daughters married off to men who are making money. In India it's the middle class mainly that works."

"The poor people are very old-fashioned. The people who live in tents and huts on the sidewalk, they get their children

married when they are 15 or 16... each family has about 13 children, they don't know anything about birth control. It (progress) interferes with their rituals, their religion, their beliefs; often they think it's evil."

Sapna grew up in India until she was 7, when she moved with her parents to the U.S. While her native culture is close to her heart, she is completely at home in New York. Besides English, she speaks three Indian languages, French and some Spanish.

At age 17, it's probably smart to be unsure about one's future: Sapna has no clear-cut plans, except maybe to follow in her mother's footsteps and study medicine. This summer she will hardly have time to enjoy the beaches, though. She is working part-time in a hospital section doing work as men are, and they worry about careers, but there is a wide gap between the rich and the poor. The rich just want to get their daughters married off to men who are making money. In India it's the middle class mainly that works."

"The poor people are very old-fashioned. The people who live in tents and huts on the sidewalk, they get their children

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Japan hits American 'hit list'

TOKYO (Agencies) — Japan reacted harshly Friday to a U.S. decision to cite it for unfair trade practices, labelling the move unfair, accusing Washington of trying to cover up its own shortcomings and warning of a possible backlash.

Despite the verbal hard line, some diplomats and trade experts here said Washington's decision to leave some of the stickiest items off the targeted list of trade barriers might allow the disputes to be settled without triggering retaliation.

U.S. Trade Representative Carla Hills said Thursday Japan had been cited for closed markets in supercomputers, satellite and forest products.

Nations cited under the so-called Super 301 clause of the 1988 Trade Act must agree within 18 months to end the offending practices or face sanctions.

Sharp comments from Japanese officials, who denied Japan has trade barriers in any of the three areas, were plentiful.

"The U.S. approach to dealing

with trade problems, which is to threaten other countries into negotiating by brandishing the threat of unilateral sanctions, is contrary to the basic principles of the GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) and could undermine the existing multilateral free trade system," International Trade and Industry Minister Hiroshi Mitsuoka said in a statement.

"I strongly regret the lack of fairness because the United States has unilaterally made such a decision... despite the fact that the United States itself maintains import restrictive measures and practices to a considerable degree," said Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno.

U.S. officials say they hope immediate trade talks open mar-

kets in Japan, Brazil and India and avert any backlash in those countries over being named to the administration's list of top trade violators.

"This exercise is not intended to be offensive," Hills told a news conference Thursday night as she announced the administration was targeting those countries for priority action. "I hope there is no backlash."

The 1988 omnibus trade act requires the administration to issue what amounts to a hit list that names the countries whose trade barriers are most harmful to American producers. The government then has 18 months to negotiate away the barriers.

Failure of the talks could lead to tariffs of up to 100 per cent on selected exports from the offending countries.

Hills also announced the United States would be watching closely 25 countries suspected of failing to protect U.S. copyrights and patents and said the administration of President George Bush

would reveal the status of the eight most flagrant ones in November.

The Japanese lobbied in recent weeks to stay off the list of top trade violators. They were less successful, however, than the Koreans, who made a number of trade concessions in recent days and did manage to avoid inclusion.

Japan was cited for its refusal to buy U.S. supercomputers and satellites as well as its barriers to purchase of U.S. wood products. The United States ran a trade deficit of \$52 billion last year with Japan, or 44 per cent of the \$119.8-billion U.S. trade imbalance.

India was cited for barriers that sharply restrict foreign investment and the closing of its insurance market to foreign companies.

Japanese Ambassador Nobuo Matsunaga said in a statement in Washington that "there may well be some domestic backlash in Japan which will make the resolu-

tion of various problems more difficult."

Foreign Ministry spokesman Taizo Watanabe told reporters Japan would not respond to a call for talks under unilateral conditions set by the United States and Trade Minister Mitsuoka said unresolved issues should be settled under existing multilateral frameworks.

"Our position is that we will not accept the proposal to hold negotiations with this kind of condition in the background," Watanabe said.

"We are ready to have talks, but not under the conditions set by the United States."

Japanese officials appeared to be struggling to avoid entering talks under conditions which would appear to validate a unilateral process they maintain has no basis in international trade law, diplomatic experts said.

"They're trying to separate the unilateral part of Super 301 from the negotiation part," one expert said.



Francois Mitterrand

France to write off \$2.7b debt of 35 states

PARIS (AP) — French President Francois Mitterrand has announced that he would ask the legislature to write off more than 16 billion francs (about \$2.7 billion) of the debt owed to France by 35 impoverished nations.

Mitterrand announced last year at the summit of the seven leading industrial nations that France was prepared to write off debt service payments owed to France by the world's poorest countries. He repeated his commitment at the last Franco-African summit in Casablanca, Morocco, earlier this year.

At the Casablanca summit, Mitterrand indicated that France was prepared to take additional steps and write off not only the debt service payments but all of the outstanding bilateral debt owed by certain countries.

Major creditor governments agreed at the annual joint meeting of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank in Berlin last September to include debt service write-offs as one of three options for easing the debt burdens of the world's poorest countries.

Officials in Paris said France has written off almost 800 million francs (about \$133 million) of official bilateral debt service payments since the Berlin agreement. Finland is the only other country so far to have chosen the debt write-off option.

France had a strong colonial influence in Africa earlier this century, and it has maintained its privileged relationship with many African states.

The debt problems of both middle-income and poor countries are expected to be high on the agenda when heads of state and government meet in mid-July in Paris for the seven-nation economic summit.

British trade deficit yawns

LONDON (R) — Britain said Thursday its current account deficit swelled to £1.66 billion (\$2.6 billion) in April.

The figure, which compared with a March shortfall of £1.2 billion (\$1.9 billion) in the current account, a measure of external trade including so-called invisibles such as banking and tourism, was in line with market expectations.

It lifted the immediate threat of a second rise in interest rates within 24 hours.

On currency markets, where sterling has been in swift retreat for several days, the pound dipped before recovering to around \$1.5740 and 3.15 West German marks.

The pound's weakness forced Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson to raise interest rates to 14 per cent from 13 per cent Wednesday and analysts feared that a wider than expected trade deficit would force another increase.

The April balance of trade deficit of £2.15 billion (\$3.3 billion) was reduced by a £500-million (\$785 million) surplus in invisibles including insurance and banking.

Britain's current account deficit is now running an annualised £18 billion (\$28 billion) compared with Lawson's budget forecast in March of £14.5 billion (\$22.8 billion).

The Department of Trade and Industry blamed the overall April increase on erratic items and a 30-per-cent reduction in oil exports as a result of accidents in North Sea oilfields.

A positive sign for Lawson was that exports fell by 3.5 per cent in April compared with March while imports rose by 2.5 per cent.

There was no let up in opposition Labour Party attacks on the government for its handling of the economy.

Bryan Gould, Labour's trade spokesman, said the April deficit was alarming "and shows once again that the economy is out of control. Britain has the worst trade performance of any country in the European Community."

Analysts warned that another rise in interest rates, which have almost doubled in less than a year in an attempt to curb inflation, would have risked pushing Britain into a recession.

GCC agrees on moves to protect local industries

BAHRAIN (E) — Gulf Arab states have agreed to take further steps to protect their infant industries in a move officials say will help boost regional trade and usher in a new era of economic growth.

Bahrain's Development and Industry Minister Yousef Shirawi told Reuters Thursday ministers of the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) had approved guidelines to protect locally-made products.

Shirawi said the new measures, which will be studied by GCC finance ministers before being implemented, would slap higher tariffs on any import which threatened a national industry.

The economic and political alliance — which imports most of its manufactured goods and foodstuffs — groups Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

"We must protect our own industries in the same way that the United States, Europe, and Japan have done," Shirawi said.

"We are embarking on a new era of industrial growth for energy-intensive industries, based this time not on higher oil prices but

on higher world demand for oil." Economists say that despite major efforts to diversify, Gulf economies are still heavily dependent on oil and refined products which account for between 85 and 90 per cent of the region's total export revenues.

GCC imports jumped to \$43.8 billion in 1987 from \$34.1 billion in 1986 while exports rose to \$57.8 from \$44.6 billion.

Shirawi said a maximum duty rate of 20 per cent and minimum of four per cent decided by the alliance three years ago would still apply but the top rate could be enforced more often.

The pact guarantees free trade between GCC member states.

Economists say around 41 per cent of GCC imports enter the area virtually duty-free while 47 per cent have a seven per cent tariff, two per cent have a 10 per cent customs duty, and nine per cent carry the maximum 20 per cent rate.

Shirawi said reports Tuesday that the GCC industry ministers had decided to boost tariffs to 25 per cent were incorrect.

Under the new scheme, individual companies would have to

apply to a GCC industry committee for protection. A company would have to prove its plant was viable, important to the national economy and able to supply the regional market.

"Protection doesn't mean monopoly — there will be competition within the GCC," Shirawi said.

"We must also guarantee the product is available in the quantities required by the region and make sure the measures will not lead to an unnecessary surge in cost for the consumer."

Shirawi said any Gulf product would be eligible for protection, including processed foodstuffs.

GCC states import more than 90 per cent of their food but canned and packaged food plants have begun to spring up, particularly in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

Gulf International Bank economist Henry Azzam said the protective measures would be wise because most GCC light industries, ranging from cooking oil plants to furniture factories, were too young to compete.

"It is important to protect infant industries until they can stand on their feet," he said.

American growth rate slower than expected

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. economy grew at a 4.3 per cent annual rate in the first three months of 1989, much slower than previously thought, the government said Thursday.

The report was welcomed by private economic analysts and the White House but met with a mixed reaction on financial markets.

The Commerce Department's estimate of growth in the gross national product (GNP), the broadest measure of economic health, was well below an initial estimate a month ago that put the GNP increase at 5.5 per cent.

The slowdown was even more pronounced when the effects of a rebound from last year's drought in the farm sector were removed.

That rebound added 2.5 percentage points to growth in the first quarter after the drought had subtracted 1.1 percentage points in the last quarter of 1988.

Thus, growth in the non-farm economy slumped to a lacklustre 1.8 per cent in the first three months of the year, down from a non-farm growth rate of 3.5 per cent in the fourth quarter and the slowest quarterly GNP advance in more than two years.

At the same time, inflation grew at an annual rate of five per cent during the January-March quarter, unchanged from the earlier estimate.

The 4.3 per cent overall GNP increase was substantially lower than expected. In advance of Thursday's report, many forecasters were looking for only a slight downward revision to 5.4 per cent GNP growth.

However, Michael Evans, head of a Washington forecasting firm, said the GNP report was actually good news for the economy because much of the weakness came from a big downward revision in the amount of inventories being accumulated by businesses.

While inventory growth adds to the GNP growth rate, it is often worrisome to economists who fear that it will lead to big cut-

backs in production in later months as companies try to get their stockpiles more in line with sales. If the production cutbacks and job layoffs are too severe, then an unwanted inventory buildup can trigger a recession.

"The fact that inventories were well under control means there won't be a cutback this quarter," Evans said. "The economy is in amazingly good shape. There seem to be no signs of a serious slowdown."

Commerce Secretary Robert Moshbacher said the Federal Reserve's efforts to fight inflation by slowing growth appeared to be having the desired effects.

"Fed policy over the past year appears to be succeeding in steering the economy to a more moderate, but sustainable, growth path," he said in a statement. "A more moderate pace of economic growth at this stage of the record expansion will assist in reducing inflationary pressure."

The stock market was little changed Thursday morning in a mixed response to the newest data. The Dow Jones average of 30 industrials slipped 1.47 to 2,482.40 in the first 90 minutes of trading.

The GNP report initially appeared to be a plus for stocks, by reinforcing evidence that the economy was slowing in response to the U.S. central bank's campaign against inflation.

But analysts noted that the figures got a new interpretation on close inspection when traders saw that much of the drop stemmed from a reduction in inventories.

In a separate report, the National Association of Realtors said existing home sales fell by 1.2 per cent in April to an annual rate of 3.36 million units. It was the fourth consecutive monthly decline, reflecting the fact that rising mortgage rates are continuing to take their toll on the housing industry.

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ECONOMIC NEWS IN BRIEF

New strike hits BBC

LONDON (R) — Journalists and technicians at the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) sought Friday to disrupt radio and television programmes in their fourth 24-hour strike in a month over a pay dispute. Union negotiator Roger Bolton said the action followed the BBC's refusal to reopen talks or increase its seven per cent pay offer. The unions want 16 per cent. Union leaders expected news, current affairs and live programmes to be hit. The dispute is one of several as annual inflation has risen to eight per cent — one of the highest in the industrialised world and the worst in Britain for seven years. London transport has been thrown into chaos by several 24-hour bus and train strikes while 9,400 registered dockers are considering walkouts that could paralyse ports.

Sudan eases currency rules

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudan, facing heavy debts and high inflation, said Thursday it would ease foreign currency regulations to boost export earnings. The official Sudan News Agency (SUNA) said the move, decided by the government Wednesday, would help domestic producers but gave no other details. Trade Minister Mirghani Abdul Rahman Slieman was quoted in local newspapers as saying exporters would be allowed to cash foreign currency earnings at the commercial bank rate, now fixed at 12.20 pounds to the dollar. Exporters may currently change only 30 per cent of their earnings at the commercial rate and the rest at the official rate of 4.5 pounds to the dollar. The main exports likely to benefit from the new rules are sesame, groundnuts and sorghum.

Egypt expects IMF accord

CAIRO (R) — Egypt expects to sign a preliminary accord with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) early next month to reschedule part of its foreign debt, a government minister was quoted as saying Thursday. Minister of State for International Cooperation Morris Makramallah told Al Akhbar newspaper that an IMF delegation would visit Cairo next month to sign the preliminary accord for rescheduling debts of some \$3.5 billion. Egypt's total foreign debts have been estimated by foreign bankers at some \$50 billion. The accord would be based on a package of economic reform proposed by the IMF, including a pledge by Egypt to reduce its budget deficit by two per cent annually, Makramallah said.

Israel Chemicals reports record sales

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel's largest state-owned firm, Israel Chemicals, earned a \$55 million after-tax profit for 1988 on record revenues of \$1.08 billion, company chairman Rafael Eitan said. The chemical concern, which makes and markets potash, bromine, phosphates and fertilisers, also earned a record \$74 million gross profit, compared with \$10.9 million in a shortened, nine-month fiscal year of 1987. "The rise in profits is due to an increase in prices of our products abroad and to improvements in the company," Eitan told a news conference after presenting the annual report. Israel Chemicals exported products worth a record \$542 million in 1988, an increase of 20 per cent over the year before, he said. The company's exports accounted for 10 per cent of all of Israel's industrial sales abroad.

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Brewers down Oakland Athletics 4-1

BASEBALL ROUNDUP

NEW YORK (AP) — Robin Yount led the go-ahead run in the fifth inning as the Milwaukee Brewers defeated pitcher Dave Stewart for the first time with a 4-1 victory over the Oakland Athletics.

Stewart, 8-2, was removed in the eighth inning after giving up nine hits, including five doubles, and four runs. He entered the game with a 9-0 record against the Athletics.

Brewers starter Bryan Cluskey, 2-1, allowed four hits but held the Athletics to one run in the fifth.

Brewers Rookie bill spiers hit a grand-slam double in the fifth and scored on Yount's double off

the fence in right centre. Dave Parker homered for Oakland in the first inning.

In other American League games Thursday, it was Detroit 9, Cleveland 5; New York 8, California 6; and Boston 10, Seattle 0; Tigers 9; Indians 5.

A leadoff triple by Gary Pettis triggered a three-run Detroit first inning as the Tigers rapped a season-high nine extra-base hits to beat the Cleveland Indians 9-5.

The Tigers hit six doubles and two home runs after Pettis' triple in winning their third consecutive game from the Indians.

Frank Tanana, 4-4, pitched the first six innings for Detroit, giving up four runs on nine hits while striking out seven.

Yankees 8, Angels 6

Don Slaught had four hits, including a tiebreaking double in the seventh inning, as the New York Yankees beat the California Angels 8-6.

Jesse Barfield, Mike Pagliaro and Don Mattingly homered for New York, which had its first three-homer game this season and matched its season high with 14 hits. Bill Schroeder hit two solo homers for California.

Tommy John made his 700th career start and remained winless in five starts since April 17. He allowed six hits and five runs in 5 1/2 innings and has given up 42 hits in his last 28 1/2 innings.

Red Sox 10, Mariners 0

Mike Smithson pitched his first shutout since 1986 and Mike Greenwell had four hits and four RBIs as the Boston Red Sox beat the Seattle Mariners 10-0 to complete a three-game sweep.

Smithson, 2-3, allowed only two runners to reach third base. He gave up eight hits, struck out six and walked two in his fifth career shutout and first complete game in four starts this season.

The shutout was preserved on the final play of the game when left fielder Greenwell threw Edgar Martinez out at the plate as he tried to score on a single by David Cochrane.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Flames beat Canadlens for Stanley Cup

MONTREAL (R) — Doug Gilmour scored two third period goals to help the Calgary Flames beat the Montreal Canadiens 4-2 Thursday and clinch Calgary's first Stanley Cup Championship ever. The win gave the Flames victory in their best-of-seven series by four games to two. Montreal, which has 23 Stanley Cup Championship banners hanging from the forum rafters, lost the cup on home ice for the first time in the forum, which opened Nov. 29, 1924. The Flames scored the only goal in the first period when Colin Patterson beat Montreal goalie Patrick Roy with a 35-foot slapshot at 18:51.

PSV completes Dutch double

ROTTERDAM (R) — PSV Eindhoven completed their second Dutch soccer double in a row Thursday, beating FC Groningen 4-1 in the cup final. With the cup added to their fourth league title in succession, PSV showed they still rule supreme in Dutch soccer. But the match was a sad moment, too, as the Eindhoven fans had to bid farewell to the side's outstanding Libero Roald Koeman, who moves to Barcelona next season under Dutch coach Joan Cruyff.

Maradona plans wedding bash

BUENOS AIRES (AP) — Soccer star Diego Maradona plans to invite 3,000 guests, including teammates from Napoli, Italy, when he marries longtime companion Claudia Villafane next September. "It's going to be a sensational party," Maradona said. "I'm going to throw the house out the window. We're going to sing and dance all night. There will be everything from water to champagne, meat to seafood, and wine, a lot of wine." Maradona, 28, and Ms. Villafane have been inseparable for a decade.

Marseille moves towards double

MARSEILLE (R) — Marseille, who captured the French soccer league title five days ago, took a big step towards completing the double when they beat Auxerre 2-0 in a cup semifinal first leg match Thursday. Goals from Jean-Pierre Papin 11 minutes after the start and from Philippe Vercruysse 11 minutes from the end gave the champions a well-deserved victory. Auxerre were also Marseille's victims last Saturday when league top scorer Papin struck twice in a 2-1 win.

Players to have lessons in stardom

DUESSELDORF (R) — Tennis players turning professional will be sent to school from next year to learn how to cope with the pressures of possible stardom. The players' union, the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP), said Thursday they would be setting up two schools in Florida and Europe in 1990. "Any new player who wants to join the ATP will have to attend the courses," ATP chief executive Hamilton Jordan said.

Evert withdraws from French Open

PARIS (AP) — Chris Evert, seven-time French Open champion, has withdrawn from next week's \$4.5 million Grand Slam tournament, saying her heart wasn't in it. "Right now I don't have the heart to stay out there and fight all day. I just want to play my schedule one week at a time," Evert, 34, said in a statement issued by the Women's International Tennis Association in Florida. Evert's personal agent, Bob Kain, said in a telephone interview that "she felt that if she was not 100 per cent totally committed to play she would drop out and she did."

Johnson lied about steroids — doctor

TORONTO (R) — Beo Johnson's doctor said Thursday that the sprinter lied about using steroids and provided the next best thing to the sprinter himself when he played a tape recording of a phone call with Johnson.

In a day of dramatic testimony before a government inquiry into drug use in amateur sports, Dr. George Mario (Jamie) Astaphan also said he did not give Johnson the banned anabolic steroid stanozolol that led to his loss of the Olympic gold medal in Seoul last September.

Johnson was stripped of his 100 metre medal after drug tests revealed traces of stanozolol in his urine.

Johnson, who was banned from competition for two years but resumed training last November, has denied he ever knowingly took illegal drugs.

In one portion of the recording played in the hushed hearing room, Johnson admitted he used the banned steroids which led to his Seoul disgrace.

"You haven't used any of the white stuff — the steroids — since December?" Dr. Astaphan,

asked during the conversation he said was taped on Jan. 29, 1988. "Part of it, yeah," Johnson replied on the tape.

"More left in the bottle?" the doctor asked.

"Yeah," the sprinter said. Astaphan said he made recordings to ensure he did not bear the brunt of the blame should steroid use by Canadian athletes come to light.

Astaphan said he tape-recorded separate telephone conversations with Johnson, coach Charlie Francis, Canadian sprinter Angella Issajenkina, and Italian sprinter Pier Francesco Pavoni about steroid use.

He also revealed that athletes and coaches from many countries had approached him, seeking his expertise in the use of the performance-enhancing anabolic steroids.

Astaphan, a Caribbean-born, Canadian-educated doctor, said he had concerns in 1987 that Johnson was using vitamins and creams with foreign labels that he had not prescribed.

"I told him it might be some-



Ben Johnson

thing that could interfere with any (drug) tests," said Astaphan, 43. "But Ben told me if he got caught you're (coach) Charlie (Francis) would take the rap."

Astaphan said coaches and athletes from countries including the United States, Italy, the Netherlands, Australia, Sweden, Finland, East and West Germany, Bulgaria, Jamaica, Africa, and England had approached him for advice regarding steroid programmes.

Astaphan's testimony was to continue Friday.

Mears big favourite as Indy winner

INDIANAPOLIS (R) — California Driver Rick Mears, the fastest in qualifying, is an overwhelming favourite to win his second straight Indianapolis 500-mile race and fourth of his career Sunday.

Mears, driving the Pennzoil Penske PC18-Chevrolet, captured pole position for the 73rd running of the race with a record four-lap speed average of 360.30 kph. He heads a 33-car field that averaged 348.55 kph, also a record.

"Everybody's got more faith in me than I do," said Mears. "You just never know about this place until you take the chequered flag."

A fourth victory would put Mears level with veterans A.J. Foyt and Al Unser among Indy winners. Foyt, who qualified for his 32nd consecutive race, is 54 and Unser will be 50 the day after the race. Mears is only 37.

Unser, who is Mears's teammate, will start next to him in the middle of the front row. In Thursday's final practice session, Unser recorded the fastest time at 349.87 kph.

"I don't like to talk about numbers until I'm gone," Unser said about his chance of becoming the first five-time winner.

Completing the front row is Emerson Fittipaldi, the former world Formula-Oce champion from Brazil, who drives for the Pat Patrick team has the same PC18-Chevrolet car driven by Mears and Unser.

"I think this is the best chance I have to win the 500," Fittipaldi, 42, said.

The second row is made up of veterans Jim Crawford of Britain, Mario Andretti, the 1969 winner, and Scott Brayton.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q.1**—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold: ♠A 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2, ♥K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2, ♦A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2, ♣A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2. The bidding has proceeded: South West North East Pass Pass 1 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass. What do you bid now?
- Q.2**—As South, vulnerable, you hold: ♠K 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2, ♥K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2, ♦A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2, ♣A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2. The bidding has proceeded: South West North East 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass. What do you bid now?
- Q.3**—As South, vulnerable, you hold: ♠A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2, ♥A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2, ♦A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2, ♣A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2. The bidding has proceeded: South West North East 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass. What do you bid now?
- Q.4**—As South, vulnerable, you hold: ♠K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2, ♥K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2, ♦A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2, ♣A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2. The bidding has proceeded: South West North East 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass. What action do you take?
- Q.5**—Both vulnerable, as South you hold: ♠K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2, ♥K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2, ♦A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2, ♣A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2. The bidding has proceeded: South West North East 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass. What do you bid now?
- Q.6**—Both vulnerable, as South you hold: ♠A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2, ♥A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2, ♦A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2, ♣A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2. The bidding has proceeded: South West North East 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass. What action do you take?

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"I quit my job to become an Elvis impersonator! I'm gonna do 'The Early Years'!"

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

- Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.
- TINJO
FORLO
KOTLEC
AVLAND
- WHAT THE COACH KEPT SAYING TO THE TEAM OF ZOMBIES.
- Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.
- Answer here:
- (Answers tomorrow)
- Yesterday's Jumble: CRAFT ELDER BAZAAR FINERY
Answer: What he said when he couldn't find a decent pair of socks in his drawer — "DARN" IT!

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, MAY 27, 1989

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

by Thomas Peterson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Institute

- GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Balanced judgment is called for today. Keep an open mind when dealing with other people's feelings. By sundown be prepared for unexpected surprises and uncertainty.
- ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19)** Extra rest during this easy cycle can help restore physical stamina. Your desire for love and companionship are strong.
- TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20)** The home environment may not be your favorite place today. Beware of advice given by others. Handle your own affairs.
- GEMINI (May 21 to June 21)** Words can be misinterpreted. Influencing your attitude for the day. Keep your mind on what you are doing. Catch up on personal chores.
- MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21)** Surround yourself with optimistic people. Psychic perceptions carry valuable messages. Profit with a win in the evening.
- LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 23)** You may enjoy browsing the bookstores or malls, but leave your credit cards and checkbook at home. Avoid letting indulgences dominate you.
- VIRGO (Aug. 24 to Sept. 22)** The outlook for love and friendship is favorable. Start on a project that can save you money. Entertain friends and family.
- LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)** Side-step important decisions and concentrate on family activities. Shop for family members. Home
- can be a haven of security.
- SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)** Events seem to run themselves today. Follow the flow. Plan local visits and run errands. The day ends in pleasure.
- SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)** This is a positive day that will keep you going. Diving into creative projects will utilize excess energy.
- CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20)** Don't take doubts about love and romance seriously. Organize your day and push aside frustrations that stifle good ideas.
- AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19)** Don't neglect necessary duties in favor of family fun. Keep to maintenance schedules to avoid mechanical failures.
- PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20)** Financial schemes can be risky, but play your hunches today in a cautious way. Meet with friends and expand creative interests.
- If Your Child Is Born Today
- He or she will be well informed, ingenious and creative. Your progeny will be an "idea person" and will believe that whatever he or she thinks is fact. Unfortunately, your son or daughter will have to learn that this mental flaring may be misunderstood by others.
- "The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!
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THE Daily Crossword by Diane C. Baldwin

- ACROSS**
- 1 Insult
- 3 NY team
- 5 Bird s.g.
- 14 Record
- 15 "Pretty" maids all in —
- 16 Vaulting rib
- 17 Currier and —
- 18 Latvian city
- 19 Alberg natives
- 20 Famous Republicans
- 21 Last
- 22 Earlier
- 23 Ms. Fisher
- 27 Corrigenda
- 32 Globe
- 35 One who sniggles
- 38 Mangle
- 39 Tooth
- 41 Fr. coin
- 42 Writer Sinclair
- 43 State firmly
- 44 Vagued vegetable
- 46 Airport letters
- 47 Porter
- 50 Unfeeling
- 52 Cough or Pile
- 55 Cops of Pole
- 56 Famous
- 58 Famous
- 60 By itself
- 61 Buttrick
- 62 Milan money
- 67 Villain Duff
- 68 To the bottom
- 69 Norse god
- 70 Financial push
- 71 Irish Gaelic
- 72 Musical pipe
- DOWN**
- 1 Pasture steps
- 2 Linda of "Alice"
- 3 Tip over
- 4 Save
- 5 Hollywood's
- 6 Ireland
- 7 Roman
- 8 Poach
- 9 Old eccentric
- 10 Culture
- 11 Lollibridge
- 12 Unlions
- 13 Remainder
- 21 Flat
- 22 Hanna
- 23 Is well
- 24 Slash
- 25 Commedia dell'
- 30 Traffic sound
- 31 Stern
- 32 Gen. Bradley
- 33 Wander
- 34 Ran as madras
- 35 Long time
- 37 Spot
- 40 Bow
- 42 Not fulfilled
- 43 Beated
- 44 Slein
- 46 Arab gp.
- 51 Tex. school
- 53 Positive
- 54 Terminal
- 56 Playground item
- 57 Strange
- 58 Tendency
- 59 Coffee
- 60 Wool
- 61 Food fishes
- 62 Petalio site
- 63 Tiliings

Peanuts



B.C.

BY JOHNNY HART



Andy Capp



Fiery debates dominate Soviet parliament session

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The new Soviet Congress refused Friday to bar Communist Party and government officials from serving in a smaller standing parliament despite complaints that this would give the officials too much power.

On the second day of its existence, the Congress of People's Deputies also declined to suspend a controversial law on demonstrations after crowds clamouring to see deputies gathered near the Kremlin.

But the sizeable number of delegates voting against the demonstration law — 831 — indicated that the progressive faction of the congress was gaining strength against conservatives in the assembly, elected in the first multi-candidate balloting for 70 years.

On the opening day of the congress, the highest number of votes won for any proposal by progressives such as former leading dissident Andrei Sakharov was 379.

The congress got seriously bogged down in debate Friday when Kremlin chief Mikhail Gorbachev, who is chairing the session, called for the election of the Supreme Soviet, the working parliament.

Although technically subordinate to the congress, the Supreme Soviet's 542 members will be in session for up to eight months a year and do most of the legislating, giving its members the decisive influence on future Soviet laws.

One reformist deputy, Vladimir Samarin, protested that the

proposed candidates included many top republican and regional party officials. "They should not be making the laws they will implement," he said.

The congress had just convened on the second day of its inaugural session when sociologist Tatyana Zaslavskaya told her colleagues that special forces had broken up a gathering on Moscow's Pushkin Square after midnight. She said constituents in Moscow had reported the action.

Zaslavskaya, a well-known researcher who has taken strong stands in favour of political and economic reform, said the crowd had assembled to meet deputies from the new congress just after midnight.

She demanded that the parliament, whose historic proceedings were being televised live nationally, to vote to lift a ban on unauthorised public gatherings for the duration of the session. The congress later defeated her proposal, with 1,261 deputies opposed to lifting the ban and 831 supporting the move. There were 30 abstentions.

Soviet law permits city authorities to ban parades and demonstrations to maintain public order. The restrictions are often invoked against unofficial political activities.

Yuri Mityunov, a spokesman

for the Democratic Union, a self-styled opposition party with a few thousand members across the country, told the Associated Press that the late-night meeting was called to appeal for more democracy at the congress and to meet Moscow deputies.

There were no arrests, but the police "behaved very aggressively," he said.

Gorbachev, boosted by his reelection as president and displaying his zest for debate, called Interior Minister Vadim Bakatin to the podium after Zaslavskaya's speech.

Bakatin reported that voters had gathered openly in cities across the country to discuss the first day of the congress. But he said no incidents were reported, with the exception of Moscow, where city authorities in advance had banned any gatherings.

Bakatin's statement to the congress touched off a noisy quarrel on the floor.

Conservatives from Central Asia applauded loudly to drown out Sakharov and Sergei Stankovich, who took the podium to condemn the police action.

Firebrand Boris N. Yeltsin and several prominent reformists were nominated Friday for the nation's full-time legislature, but parliamentarians charged officials had rigged the list to keep themselves in power.

A list of 753 congress members selected by their home regions was prepared for 542 seats in the legislature, giving deputies few choices but setting up tough races for lawmakers from Moscow,

where some of the most progressive deputies are running.

"The party apparatus is once again asking us to elect the Supreme Soviet according to the old system," charged Deputy Vladimir Shevlyuga of Rostov.

Vladimir Zolotarev of Tashkent complained that the top party and government officials in Uzbekistan had themselves nominated without consulting other deputies representing the republic.

The congress Thursday elected Gorbachev to a five-year term by an overwhelming margin. Gorbachev ran unopposed.

Yeltsin refused to run against Gorbachev but kept alive the possibility he would run for vice president. He told reporters he did not intend to withdraw from any more races.

The powers of the Soviet Union's new executive presidency held by Gorbachev resemble those of the U.S. president.

Like his American counterpart, Gorbachev will lead the state's foreign and defence policy conduct talks and sign international treaties propose laws and give regular reports on the state of the country.

But the combination of these powers plus the Soviet one-party political system gives Gorbachev awesome influence.

With most of the parliament belonging to the Communist Party, he is unlikely to face as much opposition to his legislative programmes as American presidents who frequently battle with a hostile congress.

UNESCO chief faces Third World challenge

PARIS (R) — Federico Mayor, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation's (UNESCO) Spanish director-general, is facing an angry challenge from many Third World members of the U.N. cultural agency who accuse him of racial bias and dropping plans to help under-developed nations.

African and Arab members of UNESCO who opposed Mayor's election 18 months ago accused him during an executive board meeting of being "ethnically biased."

Senegal's UNESCO delegate Iba Der Thiam told the board Wednesday that Mayor's proposals for the future of the agency took no account of the views of 50 African member states.

Third World members have proposed substantial amendments to Mayor's reform plans. Mayor, who beat former Director-General Amadou Mahtar M'bow of Senegal in a bitter leadership battle in 1987, has launched a six-year project from 1990 to 1996 based on "doing less and doing it better."

The proposals are seen as a reply to criticism from the United States and Britain, which quit the

agency in 1984 and 1985, that UNESCO's funds were mismanaged and that it had been hijacked by anti-Western interests. Mayor has said he hopes to bring the U.S. and Britain, whose withdrawal slashed UNESCO's budget by 30 per cent, back into the agency.

Thiam said Mayor's refusal to accept the ideas of the powerful African lobby at UNESCO may explain why some of them have refused to pay their annual dues.

A Brazilian delegate called Mayor's plans "eurocentric" while a Congolese representative said they showed little appreciation of developing nations' efforts to end illiteracy.

Third World delegates have harshly criticised spending plans to combat illiteracy, saying \$900,000 for a world population of 900 million illiterates is derisory.

Mayor has halved the number of UNESCO's major projects and dropped such controversial programmes as the new world information and communication order which alarmed Western nations.

Algeria called Wednesday for



Federico Mayor

the information order to be reinstated on the agenda for UNESCO projects.

The Soviet Union and Western members of UNESCO gave qualified support to Mayor's reform plans although Swiss delegate Franz Muheim said the 54-year-old director-general was still trying to achieve too much.

"The projects are too ambitious in view of the funds available and contain too many studies with derisory financing that can only have a feeble impact," Muheim said.

S. Africa sentences 14 blacks to death

UPINGTON, South Africa (R) — A court Friday sentenced to death 14 blacks, the biggest single group sent to the gallows for a politically motivated crime in modern South African history.

The 13 men and one woman, sentenced after a three-year trial, are among 25 convicted of killing a black policeman at the height of anti-apartheid riots in November, 1985.

The case of the "Upington 25", named after this remote mining town, bears similarities to the trial which condemned the "Sharpeville six" to death and provoked a storm of protest around the world.

Like the "Sharpeville six", many of the "Upington 25" were convicted out of actually killing the victim but of sharing a "common purpose" with a mob of about 120 which did.

The policeman, Lucas, Sethwala, was beaten, stoned and then set alight in Paballelo, a black township near this town on the edge of the forbidding Namib desert in northern Cape province.

The 14 were sentenced after Judge J. Basson found no extenuating circumstances for them. The 11 others convicted are expected to be sentenced next week.

Lawyers said they could not recall a case in recent decades in which so many people had been sentenced to death in a single trial.

The woman who was condemned, 54-year-old Evelina de Bruin, told the court: "This case will serve as a scale with which South Africa's justice will be measured."

Defence lawyers said they would appeal against both the convictions and sentences. On Thursday night police dispersed relatives of the convicted who had gathered to pray in Paballelo.

A coloured (mixed-race) priest present at the prayer meeting accused the police of using sjamboks (whips) against the crowd.

Meanwhile another South African judge Thursday sentenced to death a white ex-policeman who killed eight black people, including seven gunned down at point blank range, and said he was worse than a terrorist.

Supreme Court Judge Louis Harms said 23-year-old Barend Strydom had smiled and laughed as he strolled through Pretoria last Nov. 15 methodically shooting seven blacks.

He was still smiling when sentenced was passed in a heavily guarded building.

Strydom, a supporter of neo-fascist groups, killed a black woman in a squatter camp in what he said was a practice run for the shootings he carried out a week later.

He told the nine-day trial he killed because he considered blacks' high birth rate threatened the existence of the dominant Afrikaner (Dutch-descended white) community.



Argentine President Raul Alfonsín and President elect Carlos Saul Menem meet in Buenos Aires

Argentine cabinet reshuffled; economic turmoil sparks unrest

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — Outgoing President Raul Alfonsín accepted six cabinet resignations Thursday evening, following weeks of political paralysis and economic turmoil.

It was unclear what policies the new cabinet would implement to stabilise the economy. With inflation rocketing, hanks short of money and unemployment rising, the risk of social unrest loomed.

Hungry people have looted grocery stores to devour the high-priced food. The cabinet shuffle was forced by the loss of Alfonsín's Civic Union to the Peronist Party in the May 14 national elections, and by President-elect Carlos Menem's refusal, at least for the moment, to take office before schedule Dec. 10.

Alfonsín retains political power, and Menem has the public support needed to implement an unpopular economic programme. But the two could not agree on Meeem taking office early, and Tuesday Alfonsín pledged to remain until Dec. 10. He was to swear in a new cabinet Friday and unveil a new programme Sunday.

Jesus Rodriguez, the chairman of the Budget and Treasury Committee in the Chamber of Deputies, was named economy minister to replace Juan Carlos Pugliese, who lasted less than two months in the job. Rodriguez, 33, is Alfonsín's fourth economy minister.

Horacio Jaunarena remained at the Defence Ministry and Ideler Tonelli at the Labour Ministry. Pugliese, 74, moved over to the Interior Ministry.

Dante Caputo, the president of the U.N. General Assembly who recently elected to the Chamber of Deputies, was replaced by his top aide at the Foreign Minister, Susana Ruiz Cerrutti.

During the past three days, about a dozen supermarkets and food stores in three of Argentina's biggest cities were looted. At stores in Cordoba, Rosario and Mendoza, people filled shopping carts with food or ate it on the spot, and then fled.

Police in Rosario used tear gas and rubber bullets Wednesday to disperse a crowd of about 500. Several people suffered minor injuries and several were arrested.

In the capital Buenos Aires, riot police were stationed at the highest supermarkets Thursday. No incidents were reported.

Argentina has suffered a 90 per cent devaluation of its currency, the austral, since February. Inflation may hit 70 per cent this month. A severe budget deficit has forced double-digit rate hikes for public services and delays in wage increases.

Recently the crisis in Argentina has had even more of an impact on ordinary citizens. Meat prices jumped 70 per cent this week. Shoppers stare at packages of coffee or cartons of milk, shake their heads and walk away without making a purchase.

Bakers say flour is so expensive they can't buy it to make bread.

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Bakers say flour is so expensive they can't buy it to make bread.

Private Eye verdict prompts London to rethink libel law

LONDON (R) — The British government said Thursday it would consider reforms to libel laws as the satirical magazine Private Eye launched a fighting fund to help pay huge damages awarded to the wife of a convicted mass killer.

Private Eye said it would appeal against damages of £600,000 (\$942,000) it was ordered to pay the estranged wife of the "Yorkshire Ripper" murderer over allegations she sold her story to a newspaper.

Its editor Ian Hislop said Wednesday's court award to Sonia Sutcliffe could force the magazine to close. But he said he had been inundated with offers of cash from readers to help pay the damages.

John Wakeham, the government's parliamentary business

manager, said the government was to consider reforming the libel laws.

"I am aware that there has been recent criticism of a number of aspects of the law of defamation, including the size of some libel awards," he told parliament.

Press reports focused on the difference between cash won by Sutcliffe and the much smaller compensation awarded to families of women attacked by her husband Peter and to those who survived attacks. Peter Sutcliffe was jailed in 1981 for 13 murders in northern England.

Hislop says the award was 100 times more than the average compensation received by the killer's victims. "If this is justice, I am a banana," he said after the court ruling.

Private Eye, started on a shoestring budget by a group of school-friends in 1961, has walked a tight-rope between investigative journalism and the libel courts. It is currently contesting 20 other libel cases.

The award topped the £500,000 (\$785,000) paid to millionaire Author Jeffrey Archer by the Daily Star in 1987 after it alleged he had sex with a prostitute.

American-born actress Koo Stark, former girlfriend of Britain's Prince Andrew won £300,000 (\$471,000) and a further undisclosed amount in November from suits against two newspapers over allegations about her private life.

A month later, the Sun paid singer Elton John a record £1 million (\$1.57 million) in an out-of-court settlement.

Fraud, environmental disasters — the vogue in mystery plots

By Leslie Gevitz
Reuter

NEW YORK — Industrial fraud is in vogue, along with environmental disaster. Sex is out.

That's the fashion for thriller plots, according to some participants at the Mystery Writers of America annual convention in New York.

They were talking about one of the mysteries of mystery writers — where they get their ideas.

Sara Paretsky, author of five novels featuring the Chicago private investigator Vi Warshawski, including "Bloodshot," says she has no problem finding plots. She gets hers from the Wall Street Journal and the Chicago Tribune.

"What I'm on the lookout for always is political or financial or industrial fraud on a scope or scale that might lead one to commit murder in order to prohibit this fraud from coming to light," Paretsky said.

"People who want sex should read romances," explained Matthew Sarnwell, an editor at New American Library. Mysteries are going to more contemporary settings, dealing with the environment and health.

Warren Murphy told a group of would-be mystery writers: "Plot is the simplest part of this

business."

Murphy, who has written more than 100 novels, including "Too Old a Cat," upon which the television series "Murphy's Law" is based, told the group:

"God either made you a writer or God made you not a writer. But if you are a writer, then I or anyone else in this business could probably help you become a novelist."

His two main pieces of advice: come up with a title, and summarise the novel in one sentence.

Unlike Paretsky, who confessed to having tossed out several false starts of 60 or 70 pages, Murphy advised writers to map out their plots carefully before putting pen to paper.

"I never throw out 60 pages," he said. "I hate to write. And it would be shame to waste that material."

Lawrence Sanders, author of "Eight Million Ways to Die" and "When the Sacred Gin Mill Closes," did not reveal his secret for creating characters.

"How do I do it? It's an intuitive process. I really don't know," said the creator of Matthew Scudder, a former alcoholic detective, and Bernie Rhodenbarr, a private eye and gentlemanly thief.

Priscilla Ridgeway, the mystery writer organisation's executive secretary, said the market for mysteries was booming.

"Mysteries are on a roll. Whether you're talking spy or cosy (in the tradition of Agatha Christie), they're hot. We get requests all the time for mystery cruises, mystery weekends. I'm holding out for the one up the Amazon."

The convention, called Edgar Allen Poe Week, drew both mystery writers and their fans, an eccentric looking group complete with the occasional, wide-brimmed hat and trenchcoat.

"The Edgars"

The week culminated in a black tie gala affair for the 42nd annual bestowing of "The Edgars," their version of the film Academy Awards or Oscars.

The Edgar for best mystery of the year went to Stuart Kaminski's "Old Red Sunrise" and Hillary Waugh was named a grandmaster of the mystery writers' craft.

Waugh said he finds his plots everywhere. "You read a story and that gives you an idea. Or I see a newspaper headline and I think 'what a great starting place.'"

"If you are really having a hard time read true murder cases and get an idea from them. When all else fails, sit down or lie down and let your mind roam and find things coming to you from your own life."



A sick woman lies outside a main hospital in New Delhi which is hit by continuing strike by doctors.

India plans move against doctors

NEW DELHI (AP) — The government said it will hire 500 physicians to break an 11-day strike by doctors, who took to the streets Friday singing the protest song "We Shall Overcome."

More than 3,500 doctors at New Delhi's 11 government hospitals walked off their jobs in a wage dispute May 16, severely curtailing free and low-cost medical services for the capital's poorest people.

Health Ministry spokesman D.N. Chaturvedi said the government was authorising administrators at all 11 hospitals to replace the strikers, temporarily or permanently.

Dr. Mohit Parashar, a strike leader, dismissed the government's latest move to end the strike, saying "we will not be scared by this strategy to spread fear among the doctors."

He said the strike would continue indefinitely and the doctors were launching "novel protests,"

including street plays and torchlight processions.

The strikers staged a street play Friday outside Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narain Hospital, parodying the government and the state-run television, Doordarshan. The doctors have accused Doordarshan of biased coverage of the strike.

At the end of the play, a chorus sang "We Shall Overcome" in Hindi as striking doctors and supporters banged tin drums and clapped their hands.

Since Monday, the strikers have been running out-patient clinics in tents outside nine of the struck hospitals. Parashar said the doctors were distributing free medicine as "an expression of our deep anguish and concern for our patients."

The government hospitals have remained open, staffed by 800 senior doctors, but most patients were discharged on the eve of the strike and few new ones have

been admitted.

The New Delhi doctors were joined in the strike by 1,400 others in Chandigarh, Pondicherry, Banaras and Aligarh.

The walkout followed a deadlock in negotiations between the health ministry and the doctors. Chaturvedi, the Health Ministry spokesman, said that although the government plans to recruit new doctors, it hopes the strikers will return to work and is willing to negotiate.

The striking doctors earned between 3,200 rupees (\$200) and 4,300 rupees (\$269) a month. They want an increase of 850 rupees (\$53) a month. The strikers are junior hospital staffers. Nearly all are resident physicians.

They also want the government to increase their allowance for not maintaining private practice from 250 rupees (\$16) a month to 650 rupees (\$40). Doctors who work for the government are not allowed to have private practices.



Shavers risk brush with badger law

LONDON (R) — Men may be breaking British law because they use a traditional badger-hair shaving brush. They risk prosecution under a law to protect the nocturnal animal and may have to prove the badger that provided the hairs for the brush was lawfully killed, according to a law lecturer. "Anyone who thinks this is far-fetched is making a serious mistake," Barry Peachey wrote in the latest issue of the solicitors' journal. Peachey said he was involved in one case where police raided a man's home and took a stuffed badger head from a wall. The head had been stuffed by the man's grandfather in 1880 — but he was prosecuted and called on to prove the animal had not been killed in contravention of the 1973 law. "Another individual was prosecuted for possession of three badger hairs found in the mud on a wheel of his land rover," Peachey said.

Mother slams TV comedy

BLOOMFIELD HILLS, Michigan (AP) — Friends of Terry Rakolta, a suburban mother whose complaints about a television show she felt was too racy led some advertisers to withdraw sponsorship, say she has handled the attention well. Rakolta, 44, established a group called Americans for Responsible Television after denouncing the show "Married... with Children" as hostile to family values. She has since appeared on numerous news and talk shows to oppose sex and violence on television. Friends say Rakolta's concern for her family gives her the strength to take on the networks. "There are certain things she cares very much about," said Suzy Farman, a friend for 15 years. "She's like a mother lion."

Brussels taxis offer condoms, advice

BRUSSELS (R) — Brussels taxi drivers will soon be dispensing more than worldly wisdom to their passengers. They will also offer leaflets about AIDS during the day and free condoms at night. "Taxi drivers talk the whole time and so are ideal for the job," Jacques Golembowski, a representative for one of the two taxi companies taking part in the week-long scheme, said Tuesday. To avoid giving offence to passengers at night the drivers will hand over a leaflet and tactfully steer the conversation to the topic of AIDS. Only then will contraceptives be offered. "You can't just give people condoms in taxis — they could be married, or nuns," he said. The two companies, which together operate about 10 per cent of the 1,400 taxis in the Belgian capital, will launch the scheme next to the Manneken Pis, the famous statue of a small boy urinating.

Mother-in-law backs wifebeater

AUCKLAND, New Zealand (R) — A New Zealand man convicted of beating his wife found an unusual supporter at an Auckland court — his mother-in-law. "I don't think he deserves a sentence. He deserves a medal," the mother-in-law told Otahuhu district court. "He has literally been through hell." The woman said her daughter had driven the 36-year-old man, whose name was withheld, to extremes and if there was any trouble "she would've asked for it." Judge David Harvey sentenced him to supervision for one year and ordered that he have anger and stress management counselling. But Harvey added: "You were the recipient of a considerable amount of verbal and psychological abuse."

Global weather (major world cities)

	MIN.	° F	MAX.	° F	WIND
AMSTERDAM	16	61	23	73	Cloudy
ATHENS	14	57	23	73	Clear
BAHRAIN	26	82	92	104	Clear
BANGKOK	27	81	35	95	Clear
BUEENOS AIRES	10	50	18	65	Clear
CAIRO	18	64	30	86	Clear
CHICAGO	16	60	24	75	Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	14	57	24	75	Clear
FRANKFURT	11	52	27	81	Clear
GENEVA	13	55	25	77	Clear
HONG KONG	23	73	25	77	Cloudy
ISTANBUL	11	52	20	68	Cloudy
LONDON	11	52	19	66	Cloudy
LOS ANGELES	14	57	24	75	Clear
MADRID	12	54	21	70	Cloudy
MECCA	31	88	45	113	Clear
MONTREAL	09	48	24	75	Clear
MOSCOW	11	52	22	72	Clear
NEW DELHI	27	80	40	104	Clear
NEW YORK	14	57	24	75	Clear